

Northern Potter SD

**District Level Plan**

10/01/2013 - 06/30/2017

# District Profile

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## Demographics

745 Northern Potter Road  
Ulysses, PA 16948-9570  
(814) 848-7506  
Superintendent: Scott Graham  
Director of Special Education: James Wagner

## Planning Process

The Northern Potter School District has several stakeholders involved in developing its Comprehensive Plan. We have several individuals who are responsible for developing and presenting this plan. We finished our Special Education Plan and submitted it to the state for approval in May 2013. Subsequently our plan has been approved by the state.

For the remaining parts of the plan, we have been meeting periodically to develop the plan with various stakeholder groups. Our goal is to have the plan completed by late October and have the Board approve the plan at their November meeting. To accomplish this we will be meeting face to face and through email various stakeholders that comprise the district's Comprehensive Planning Team. These members consist of Teachers, Specialists, Administrators, Community/Business members, and Parents. While administrators will be responsible for submitting the information on the Comprehensive Plan, any and all information must be approved by the members of the committee.

The Northern Potter School District believes in the concept of Professional Learning Communities and values input not only from staff but from the community as well. As such, this plan will be a reflection of what our school district community feels is necessary to provide our students with a "World Class" education.

## Mission Statement

The Northern Potter School District exists to provide **all** students the opportunity to achieve their highest potential.

## Vision Statement

The Northern Potter School District will strive to become "World-Class" in preparing all students, using standards based curriculum, to compete successfully in a global economy.

## **Shared Values**

We believe all children can learn.

We believe in high expectations for all students and the entire school community.

We believe in accountability.

We believe that children learn differently and their education should be geared to their unique, innate abilities.

We believe in the value of diversity.

We believe our schools should be safe and positive learning environments.

We believe in life-long learning.

We believe we must prepare all students to compete in a global community and be productive citizens.

We believe that teaching and learning cannot be done in isolation.

We believe that all students must receive a quality education by highly trained teachers and administrators.

## **Educational Community**

The Northern Potter School District encompasses 231 square miles in Potter County. It is bordered to the east by the Northern Tioga SD, to the south by the Galeton Area School District, to the west by the Coudersport Area School District, and to the north by the New York state border. The district is rural with the main industries being farming, lumber, and recreation. In the past few years, several natural gas wells were drilled in the district and the hope is that this will bring more jobs and wealth to the district's residents.

The district is comprised of two buildings located on a central campus two miles from Ulysses, PA. The Children's School houses pre-k through sixth grade. The Northern Potter Jr./Sr. High School houses grades 7 through 12. The current student enrollment is 555 students. There has been a slight but steady decrease in population in the district for many years. The district currently employs 53 professional staff, 26 support staff, and 4 administrators. The Children's School was renovated in 2006 with the addition of five classrooms, a new gym, and administration offices. The physical plant is in excellent condition with an emphasis on quality maintenance.

The district's schools failed to meet AYP in 2012. The Children's School is on Warning status and the Jr./Sr. High School is in School Improvement 1. The district, as a whole, did make AYP in 2012.

The Northern Potter School District has an excellent faculty and staff with a very supportive Board of Education. The district has a reputation throughout the area as innovative in the use of Technology in the Classrooms. Several teachers and administrators have presented on the state and national levels innovative initiatives the district has undertaken. Our campus is located in a "dead zone" for cell service and many of our residents do not have access to high speed internet. Despite these obstacles, the district continues to find innovative ways to incorporate technology in the classrooms.

The district is in good financial condition but recent budget cuts at the state and federal levels have brought about reductions in staff. Over the past five years, the district has eliminated more than 10 teaching positions, mainly through attrition. In addition, the district staff have taken on additional duties in order to save money. The 2013-2014 General Fund Budget reflects appropriations of \$8,973,292 and revenues of \$8,777,886. This represents a shortfall of \$195,406. This shortfall is after the district raised taxes to the ACT 1 limits. Fund balance will be used to balance the budget. This is the second year the district has had to use fund balance to balance the budget. If things continue as they have, we estimate the district will exhaust its reserves in 5 years.

### Planning Committee

Name	Role
Brent Bryant	Ed Specialist - Instructional Technology
Amanda Butler	Secondary School Teacher - Regular Education
Ann Marie Cady	Parent
Lonnie Cady	Business Representative
Melody Crawford	Parent
Kim Eckenrode	Ed Specialist - School Counselor
Joe Eglesia	Administrator
Jackie Erway	Special Education Administrative Assistant
Darrell Gamble	Ed Specialist - School Counselor
Scott Graham	Administrator
Michelle Hoopes	Business Representative
Jessica Knowles	Parent
Christina LaBarron	Secondary School Teacher - Regular Education
Chastity Lewis	Community Representative
Joan Martin	Elementary School Teacher - Regular Education
Casey Martin-Cady	Elementary School Teacher - Regular Education
Georgia McCutcheon	Secondary School Teacher - Regular Education
Tina Misner	Elementary School Teacher - Regular Education
Michael Morgan	Administrator
Debbie Morgan	Parent
David Smoker	Board Member
Alicia White	Community Representative

# Core Foundations

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## Standards

### *Mapping and Alignment*

#### Elementary Education-Primary Level

Standards	Mapping	Alignment
Arts and Humanities	Accomplished	Accomplished
Career Education and Work	Developing	Developing
Civics and Government	Developing	Developing
Common Core Standards: English Language Arts	Accomplished	Accomplished
Common Core Standards: Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science and Technical Subjects	Developing	Developing
Common Core Standards: Mathematics	Accomplished	Accomplished
Economics	Developing	Developing
Environment and Ecology	Developing	Developing
Family and Consumer Sciences	Accomplished	Accomplished
Geography	Developing	Developing
Health, Safety and Physical Education	Accomplished	Accomplished
History	Developing	Developing
Science and Technology and Engineering Education	Developing	Developing
Alternate Academic Content Standards for Math	Developing	Developing
Alternate Academic Content Standards for Reading	Developing	Developing
American School Counselor Association for Students	Developing	Developing
Early Childhood Education: Infant-Toddler&rarr;Second Grade	Developing	Developing
English Language Proficiency	Developing	Developing
Interpersonal Skills	Accomplished	Accomplished
School Climate	Developing	Developing

Explanation for standard areas checked "Needs Improvement" or "Non Existent":

The Northern Potter Children's School, grades K-grade 6, have completed curriculum maps for English Language Arts, and Mathematics. Curriculum map editing and updating will occur during the school years covered by this Comprehensive Plan.

#### School Climate

- **Northern Potter Children's School's HOUSE**

program was adopted in 2006. In 2010 it was expanded to become the **NPCS School-Wide Positive Behavior Plan**

. Each school year since 2010, the SWPBP is reviewed and updated.

#### Elementary Education-Intermediate Level

<b>Standards</b>	<b>Mapping</b>	<b>Alignment</b>
Arts and Humanities	Accomplished	Accomplished
Career Education and Work	Developing	Developing
Civics and Government	Developing	Developing
Common Core Standards: English Language Arts	Accomplished	Accomplished
Common Core Standards: Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science and Technical Subjects	Developing	Developing
Common Core Standards: Mathematics	Accomplished	Accomplished
Economics	Developing	Developing
Environment and Ecology	Developing	Developing
Family and Consumer Sciences	Accomplished	Accomplished
Geography	Developing	Developing
Health, Safety and Physical Education	Accomplished	Accomplished
History	Developing	Developing
Science and Technology and Engineering Education	Accomplished	Accomplished
Alternate Academic Content Standards for Math	Accomplished	Accomplished
Alternate Academic Content Standards for Reading	Accomplished	Accomplished
American School Counselor Association for Students	Developing	Developing
English Language Proficiency	Accomplished	Accomplished
Interpersonal Skills	Developing	Developing
School Climate	Accomplished	Accomplished

Explanation for standard areas checked "Needs Improvement" or "Non Existent":

The Northern Potter Children's School, grades K-grade 6, have completed curriculum maps for English Language Arts, and Mathematics. Curriculum map editing and updating will occur during the school years covered by this Comprehensive Plan. **School Climate**

- **Northern Potter Children's School's HOUSE**

program was adopted in 2006. In 2010 it was expanded to become the **NPCS School-Wide Positive Behavior Plan**

. Each school year since 2010, the SWPBP is reviewed and updated.

#### **Middle Level**

<b>Standards</b>	<b>Mapping</b>	<b>Alignment</b>
Arts and Humanities	Developing	Developing
Career Education and Work	Developing	Developing
Civics and Government	Developing	Developing
Common Core Standards: English Language Arts	Developing	Developing
Common Core Standards: Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science and Technical Subjects	Developing	Developing
Common Core Standards: Mathematics	Developing	Developing
Economics	Developing	Developing
Environment and Ecology	Developing	Developing
Family and Consumer Sciences	Developing	Developing
Geography	Developing	Developing

Health, Safety and Physical Education	Accomplished	Accomplished
History	Developing	Developing
Science and Technology and Engineering Education	Developing	Developing
Alternate Academic Content Standards for Math	Developing	Developing
Alternate Academic Content Standards for Reading	Developing	Developing
American School Counselor Association for Students	Developing	Developing
English Language Proficiency	Developing	Developing
Interpersonal Skills	Developing	Developing
School Climate	Developing	Developing
World Language	Developing	Developing

Explanation for standard areas checked "Needs Improvement" or "Non Existent":

*This narrative is empty.*

### High School Level

Standards	Mapping	Alignment
Arts and Humanities	Developing	Developing
Career Education and Work	Developing	Developing
Civics and Government	Developing	Developing
Common Core Standards: English Language Arts	Developing	Developing
Common Core Standards: Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science and Technical Subjects	Developing	Developing
Common Core Standards: Mathematics	Developing	Developing
Economics	Developing	Developing
Environment and Ecology	Developing	Developing
Family and Consumer Sciences	Developing	Developing
Geography	Developing	Developing
Health, Safety and Physical Education	Accomplished	Accomplished
History	Developing	Developing
Science and Technology and Engineering Education	Developing	Developing
Alternate Academic Content Standards for Math	Developing	Developing
Alternate Academic Content Standards for Reading	Developing	Developing
American School Counselor Association for Students	Developing	Developing
English Language Proficiency	Developing	Developing
Interpersonal Skills	Developing	Developing
School Climate	Developing	Developing
World Language	Developing	Developing

Explanation for standard areas checked "Needs Improvement" or "Non Existent":

*This narrative is empty.*

### Adaptations

### **Elementary Education-Primary Level**

- Arts and Humanities
- Career Education and Work
- Civics and Government
- Common Core Standards: English Language Arts
- Common Core Standards: Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science and Technical Subjects
- Common Core Standards: Mathematics
- Environment and Ecology
- Geography
- Health, Safety and Physical Education
- History
- Science and Technology and Engineering Education

### **Elementary Education-Intermediate Level**

- Arts and Humanities
- Career Education and Work
- Civics and Government
- Common Core Standards: English Language Arts
- Common Core Standards: Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science and Technical Subjects
- Common Core Standards: Mathematics
- Environment and Ecology
- Geography
- Health, Safety and Physical Education
- History
- Science and Technology and Engineering Education

### **Middle Level**

- Arts and Humanities
- Career Education and Work
- Civics and Government
- Common Core Standards: English Language Arts
- Common Core Standards: Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science and Technical Subjects
- Common Core Standards: Mathematics
- Economics
- Environment and Ecology
- Family and Consumer Sciences
- Geography
- Health, Safety and Physical Education
- History
- Science and Technology and Engineering Education

### **High School Level**

- Arts and Humanities



- Career Education and Work
- Civics and Government
- Common Core Standards: English Language Arts
- Common Core Standards: Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science and Technical Subjects
- Common Core Standards: Mathematics
- Economics
- Environment and Ecology
- Family and Consumer Sciences
- Geography
- Health, Safety and Physical Education
- History
- Science and Technology and Engineering Education

Explanation for any standards checked:

The Northern Potter Children's School and Jr./Sr. High School are basing their language arts, math, and science curricula on the PA Common Core Standards as well as the traditional PA Academic Standards to account for the transition between the two in the next year. All other subject areas will be based on the PA Academic Standards and/or National Standards associated with each subject area. As more subjects are added to the Common Core and the Common Core becomes the focus of all curricula and subject areas, NPHS will align its curricula to these resources. The district administration strongly encouraged these revisions as the curricula had not been revised since 2007.

## Curriculum

### *Planned Instruction*

#### Elementary Education-Primary Level

Curriculum Characteristics	Status
Objectives of planned courses, instructional units or interdisciplinary studies to be achieved by all students are identified for each subject area.	Accomplished
Content, including materials and activities and estimated instructional time to be devoted to achieving the academic standards are identified.	Accomplished
The relationship between the objectives of a planned course, instructional unit or interdisciplinary studies and academic standards are identified.	Accomplished
Procedures for measurement of mastery of the objectives of a planned course, instructional unit or interdisciplinary studies are identified.	Accomplished

Processes used to ensure Accomplishment:

The Northern Potter Children's School completed its curriculum map foundation to begin the 2013-2014 school year. Grade level teams will meet once each quarter (October, December, February, and April) to insure that the curriculum map is being followed and updated as necessary. Likewise, local assessment will be administered a minimum of three

times during the school year (Baseline- September; Winter- January; Spring- April) to determine the overall proficiency and academic growth of students in grades K-3.

Explanation for any standards areas checked "Needs Improvement" or "Non Existent". How the LEA plans to address their incorporation:

*This narrative is empty.*

#### **Elementary Education-Intermediate Level**

<b>Curriculum Characteristics</b>	<b>Status</b>
Objectives of planned courses, instructional units or interdisciplinary studies to be achieved by all students are identified for each subject area.	Accomplished
Content, including materials and activities and estimated instructional time to be devoted to achieving the academic standards are identified.	Accomplished
The relationship between the objectives of a planned course, instructional unit or interdisciplinary studies and academic standards are identified.	Accomplished
Procedures for measurement of mastery of the objectives of a planned course, instructional unit or interdisciplinary studies are identified.	Accomplished

Processes used to ensure Accomplishment:

The Northern Potter Children's School completed its curriculum map foundation to begin the 2013-2014 school year. Grade level teams will meet once each quarter (October, December, February, and April) to insure that the curriculum map is being followed and updated as necessary. Likewise, local assessment will be administered a minimum of three times during the school year (Baseline- September; Winter- January; Spring- April) to determine the overall proficiency and academic growth of students in grades 4-6.

Explanation for any standards areas checked "Needs Improvement" or "Non Existent". How the LEA plans to address their incorporation:

*This narrative is empty.*

#### **Middle Level**

<b>Curriculum Characteristics</b>	<b>Status</b>
Objectives of planned courses, instructional units or interdisciplinary studies to be achieved by all students are identified for each subject area.	Developing
Content, including materials and activities and estimated instructional time to be devoted to achieving the academic standards are identified.	Developing
The relationship between the objectives of a planned course, instructional unit or interdisciplinary studies and academic standards are identified.	Developing
Procedures for measurement of mastery of the objectives of a planned course, instructional unit or interdisciplinary studies are identified.	Developing

Processes used to ensure Accomplishment:

*This narrative is empty.*

Explanation for any standards areas checked "Needs Improvement" or "Non Existent". How the LEA plans to address their incorporation:

*This narrative is empty.*

### **High School Level**

<b>Curriculum Characteristics</b>	<b>Status</b>
Objectives of planned courses, instructional units or interdisciplinary studies to be achieved by all students are identified for each subject area.	Developing
Content, including materials and activities and estimated instructional time to be devoted to achieving the academic standards are identified.	Developing
The relationship between the objectives of a planned course, instructional unit or interdisciplinary studies and academic standards are identified.	Developing
Procedures for measurement of mastery of the objectives of a planned course, instructional unit or interdisciplinary studies are identified.	Developing

Processes used to ensure Accomplishment:

*This narrative is empty.*

Explanation for any standards areas checked "Needs Improvement" or "Non Existent". How the LEA plans to address their incorporation:

*This narrative is empty.*

### **Modification and Accommodations**

Explain how planned instruction contains modifications and accommodations that allow all students at all mental and physical ability levels to access and master a rigorous standards aligned curriculum.

The Northern Potter School District's philosophy that every child can learn is evidenced in its inclusion model. Every attempt is made to provide students with the support that they need to be successful in learning. Classroom teachers use strategies to differentiate instruction and assess the learning of all students throughout the school year. A co-teaching model is used in which learning support teachers are paired with classroom teachers to 1.) facilitate effective instruction for all students, and 2.) provide guaranteed supports for students with individualized education plans (IEPs).

### **Instruction**

### ***Instructional Strategies***

- Formal classroom observations focused on instruction
- Walkthroughs targeted on instruction
- Annual Instructional evaluations
- Peer evaluation/coaching
- Instructional Coaching

#### **Regular Lesson Plan Review**

- Administrators
- Building Supervisors
- Instructional Coaches

Provide brief explanation of LEA's process for incorporating selected strategies.

Every teacher in the Northern Potter School District teaching is observed by building administrators and the district superintendent. Formal observations will be conducted with 25% of the teaching staff in each of the next four years using the adopted PDE Teacher Effectiveness Tool. The remaining teachers will be evaluated utilizing the Northern Potter School District's Differentiated Supervision Plan. A main focus of these observations is to evaluate instructional strategies and methods of instruction that lead to student success. A four-year cycle has been approved by the Northern Potter School Board, so that 100% of the Northern Potter faculty will be formally observed over the next 4 years in accordance with PDE Teacher Effectiveness initiative. Each year, for the next four years, 75% of the Northern Potter School District faculty will be evaluated using the approved Differentiated Supervision Plan. The NPSD-DSP will be in effect to begin the 2013-2014 school year.

Provide brief explanation for strategies not selected and how the LEA plans to address their incorporation.

The Northern Potter School district is a small rural school district. We do not have department supervisors in either of our two school buildings.

### ***Responsiveness to Student Needs***

#### **Elementary Education-Primary Level**

<b>Instructional Practices</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>Structured grouping practices are used to meet student needs.</b>	<b>Full Implementation</b>
<b>Flexible instructional time or other schedule-related practices are used to meet student needs.</b>	<b>Full Implementation</b>
<b>Differentiated instruction is used to meet student needs.</b>	<b>Full Implementation</b>
<b>A variety of practices that may include structured grouping, flexible scheduling and differentiated instruction are used to meet the needs of gifted students.</b>	<b>Full Implementation</b>

If necessary, provide further explanation. (Required explanation if column selected was

*This narrative is empty.*

### Elementary Education-Intermediate Level

Instructional Practices	Status
Structured grouping practices are used to meet student needs.	Full Implementation
Flexible instructional time or other schedule-related practices are used to meet student needs.	Full Implementation
Differentiated instruction is used to meet student needs.	Full Implementation
A variety of practices that may include structured grouping, flexible scheduling and differentiated instruction are used to meet the needs of gifted students.	Full Implementation

If necessary, provide further explanation. (Required explanation if column selected was

*This narrative is empty.*

### Middle Level

Instructional Practices	Status
Structured grouping practices are used to meet student needs.	Full Implementation
Flexible instructional time or other schedule-related practices are used to meet student needs.	Full Implementation
Differentiated instruction is used to meet student needs.	Full Implementation
A variety of practices that may include structured grouping, flexible scheduling and differentiated instruction are used to meet the needs of gifted students.	Full Implementation

If necessary, provide further explanation. (Required explanation if column selected was

*This narrative is empty.*

### High School Level

Instructional Practices	Status
Structured grouping practices are used to meet student needs.	Full Implementation
Flexible instructional time or other schedule-related practices are used to meet student needs.	Full Implementation
Differentiated instruction is used to meet student needs.	Full Implementation
A variety of practices that may include structured grouping, flexible scheduling and differentiated instruction are used to meet the needs of gifted students.	Full Implementation

If necessary, provide further explanation. (Required explanation if column selected was

*This narrative is empty.*

### ***Recruitment***

Describe the process you implement to recruit and assign the most effective and highly qualified teachers in order to meet the learning needs of students who are below proficiency or are at risk of not graduating.

Recent budget concerns and declining school enrollment have forced the Northern Potter School District to eliminate certain positions at both NP Children's and Jr/Sr High School. Despite this, recent hires have gone through an extensive interview process to be sure that they are highly qualified and capable of providing all students with good instruction. The NP K-6 schedule allows for a 30-45 minute intervention block that is covered by a collaborative approach among the classroom teachers, one K-6 learning support teacher, one K-6 enrichment teacher, one K-3 intervention teacher, and four paraprofessionals. Students in need of additional instructional support in the junior-senior high school are provided intervention by classroom teachers, three learning support teachers, and one paraprofessional, using tutorial sessions scheduled by teachers within the traditional schedule and/or during, before, and after-school sessions.

### **Assessments**

#### ***Local Graduation Requirements***

<b>Course Completion</b>	<b>SY 13-14</b>	<b>SY 14-15</b>	<b>SY 15-16</b>	<b>SY 16-17</b>	<b>SY 17-18</b>	<b>SY 18-19</b>
<b>Total Courses</b>	<b>35.00</b>	<b>35.00</b>	<b>35.00</b>	<b>35.00</b>	<b>35.00</b>	<b>35.00</b>
<b>English</b>	<b>4.00</b>	<b>4.00</b>	<b>4.00</b>	<b>4.00</b>	<b>4.00</b>	<b>4.00</b>
<b>Mathematics</b>	<b>4.00</b>	<b>4.00</b>	<b>4.00</b>	<b>4.00</b>	<b>4.00</b>	<b>4.00</b>
<b>Social Studies</b>	<b>4.00</b>	<b>4.00</b>	<b>4.00</b>	<b>4.00</b>	<b>4.00</b>	<b>4.00</b>
<b>Science</b>	<b>3.00</b>	<b>3.00</b>	<b>3.00</b>	<b>3.00</b>	<b>3.00</b>	<b>3.00</b>
<b>Physical Education</b>	<b>4.00</b>	<b>4.00</b>	<b>4.00</b>	<b>4.00</b>	<b>4.00</b>	<b>4.00</b>
<b>Health</b>	<b>2.00</b>	<b>2.00</b>	<b>2.00</b>	<b>2.00</b>	<b>2.00</b>	<b>2.00</b>
<b>Music, Art, Family &amp; Consumer Sciences, Career and Technical Education</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Electives</b>	<b>15.00</b>	<b>15.00</b>	<b>15.00</b>	<b>15.00</b>	<b>15.00</b>	<b>15.00</b>
<b>Minimum % Grade Required for Credit (Numerical Answer)</b>	<b>65.00</b>	<b>65.00</b>	<b>65.00</b>	<b>65.00</b>	<b>65.00</b>	<b>65.00</b>

#### ***2014 Graduation Specifics***

Identify the method(s) used for determining graduation proficiency for the following sets of standards. (Check all that apply)

### Reading

- Local Assessments aligned with State Standards

### Writing

- Local Assessments aligned with State Standards

### Mathematics

- Local Assessments aligned with State Standards

### Local Assessments

Standards	WA	TD	NAT	DA	PSW	Other
Arts and Humanities	X	X				X
Career Education and Work		X				X
Civics and Government		X				X
Common Core Standards: English Language Arts		X				X
Common Core Standards: Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science and Technical Subjects		X				X
Common Core Standards: Mathematics		X				X
Economics		X				X
Environment and Ecology		X				X
Family and Consumer Sciences		X				X
Geography		X				X
Health, Safety and Physical Education		X				X
History		X				X
Science and Technology and Engineering Education		X				X
World Language		X				X

### 2015 and beyond Graduation Requirement Specifics

Identify the method(s) used for determining graduation proficiency for the following sets of standards. (Check all that apply)

### English Language and Composition

*No methods have been identified for this standard.*

### English Literature

- Completion of Course Work in which a student demonstrates proficiency on the associated Keystone Exam

### **Mathematics**

- Completion of Course Work in which a student demonstrates proficiency on the associated Keystone Exam

### **Science & Technology**

- Completion of Course Work in which a student demonstrates proficiency on the associated Keystone Exam

### **Environment & Ecology**

*No methods have been identified for this standard.*

## **2017 and beyond Graduation Requirement Specifics**

Identify the method(s) used for determining graduation proficiency for the following sets of standards. (Check all that apply)

### **English Language and Composition**

*No methods have been identified for this standard.*

### **American History, Civics/Government, or World History**

*No methods have been identified for this standard.*

## **Methods and Measures**

### **Summative Assessments**

<b>Summative Assessments</b>	<b>EEP</b>	<b>EEI</b>	<b>ML</b>	<b>HS</b>
PSSA, Reading and Math		X	X	
PASA, with identified Life Skills students	X	X	X	X
PSSA, Science		X	X	
Teacher made chapter, unit, mid-year, end-of-year tests based on PA Core Standards, K-6	X	X	X	X
Keystone Exams				X

### **Benchmark Assessments**

<b>Benchmark Assessments</b>	<b>EEP</b>	<b>EEI</b>	<b>ML</b>	<b>HS</b>
4Sights, Reading- Grades 3-6		X		
4Sights, Math- Grades 3-6		X		
DIBELS, K-3	X			
GMADE (Group Mathematics Assessment and Diagnostic Evaluation), K-2	X			
Teacher made chapter, unit, mid-year, end-of-year	X	X	X	X



tests based on PA Core Standards, K-6				
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### Formative Assessments

Formative Assessments	EEP	EEI	ML	HS
DIBELS, Grades 4-6		X		
DIBELS, K-3	X			
4Sights, Reading- Grades 3-6		X		
4Sights, Math- Grades 3-6		X		
PSSA Reading and Math		X		
Informal Reading Inventories, Grades K-6	X	X	X	
PSSA Science, Grade 4 and Grade 8		X	X	
Teacher made chapter, unit, mid-year, end-of-year tests based on PA Core Standards, K-6	X	X	X	X
Assessment and LEarning in Knowledge Spaces (ALEKS)			X	X

### Diagnostic Assessments

Diagnostic Assessments	EEP	EEI	ML	HS
4Sights, Reading- Grades 3-6	X	X		
GMADE (Group Mathematics Assessment and Diagnostic Evaluation), K-2		X		
Informal Reading Inventories, Grades K-6	X	X		
PSSA Reading, Math, and Science grades 3-8		X	X	
DIBELS, K-3	X			
DIBELS, Grades 4-6		X		
Teacher made chapter, unit, mid-year, end-of-year tests based on PA Core Standards, K-6	X	X	X	X
CDT Tests				X
Assessment and LEarning in Knowledge Spaces (ALEKS)			X	X

### Validation of Implemented Assessments

Validation Methods	EEP	EEI	ML	HS
External Review	X	X	X	X
Intermediate Unit Review	X	X	X	X
LEA Administration Review	X	X	X	X
Building Supervisor Review	X	X	X	X
Department Supervisor Review				
Professional Learning Community Review	X	X	X	X
Instructional Coach Review	X	X	X	X

Teacher Peer Review	X	X	X	X
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Provide brief explanation of your process for reviewing assessments.

A team of teachers, the building level principal, and guidance counselor review PSSA, Keystone, and PVAAS data annually to determine the effectiveness of the established reading, math, and science curricula. Data analysis meetings are set up with each grade level span in the elementary school (K-1, 2-3, 4-5-6) and departmental teams at least three times a year. The building principals distribute student assessment data (DIBELS, GMADE, 4SIGHT, and CDTs) to the teachers so that a review of student performance and curriculum can take place. Recommendations from these data analysis meetings are shared with the principal and are put in place as soon as is feasibly possible. Benchmark assessment data is sent home to parents over the summer(PSSA/Keystone Parent reports), fall (benchmark assessments), winter, and spring along with student report cards, and it is shared during parent teacher conferences held in mid-fall, and mid-winter.

### ***Development and Validation of Local Assessments***

If applicable, explain your procedures for developing locally administered assessments and how they are independently and objectively validated every six years.

*This narrative is empty.*

### ***Collection and Dissemination***

Describe your system to collect, analyze and disseminate assessment data efficiently and effectively for use by LEA leaders and instructional teams.

Benchmark assessment data is collected and disseminated to LEA leaders and grade level and departmental teachers at least 4 times a year. All spring PSSA, Keystone, and local benchmark data for students tested in grades K-6 and 7-12 is shared with teachers when they return to work in the fall. Likewise, benchmark assessment data for all K-6 and 7-12 students is disseminated and reviewed by grade level and departmental teachers in mid-fall, mid-winter, and spring.

### ***Data Informed Instruction***

Describe how information from the assessments is used to assist students who have not demonstrated achievement of the academic standards at a proficient level or higher.

Through analyzing data provided from various assessments, teachers are able to identify students who are not meeting standard levels of achievement as well as the exact skills in which students are underperforming. Teachers can then match individual students with the specific instruction they need to improve skills in the subject areas.

### ***Assessment Data Uses***

Assessment Data Uses	EEP	EEI	ML	HS
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Assessment results are reported out by PA assessment anchor or standards-aligned learning objective.	X	X	X	X
Instructional practices are identified that are linked to student success in mastering specific PA assessment anchors, eligible content or standards-aligned learning objectives.	X	X	X	X
Specific PA assessment anchors, eligible content or standards-aligned learning objectives are identified for those students who did not demonstrate sufficient mastery so that teachers can collaboratively create and/or identify instructional strategies likely to increase mastery.	X	X	X	X
Instructional practices modified or adapted to increase student mastery.	X	X	X	X

Provide brief explanation of the process for incorporating selected strategies.

Grade level and departmental teams analyze student data and help determine successful strategies being implemented school-wide. Many times in the elementary school, a 30 minute differentiated intervention period is used to work with students testing in the basic or below basic ranges. Enrichment activities are also incorporated during the intervention period for students working in the proficient ranges. In the high school, students receive the individualized instruction they need to increase performance in their regular classes, during academic development (study hall) periods, and/or during individualized tutoring sessions that occur outside of the daily schedule.

Provide brief explanation for strategies not selected and how you plan to address their incorporation.

*This narrative is empty.*

### ***Distribution of Summative Assessment Results***

Distribution Methods	EEP	EEI	ML	HS
Course Planning Guides				
Directing Public to the PDE & AYP or other Test-related Websites	X	X	X	X
Individual Meetings	X	X	X	X
Letters to Parents/Guardians	X	X	X	X
Local Media Reports				
Website	X	X	X	X
Meetings with Community, Families and School Board	X	X	X	X
Mass Phone Calls/Emails/Letters	X	X	X	X
Newsletters	X	X	X	X
Press Releases				
School Calendar	X	X	X	X

Student Handbook				
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Provide brief explanation of the process for incorporating selected strategies.

Northern Potter does a commendable job with sharing assessment results with the community in the ways identified. These are the ways that naturally fit the environment as well as the circumstances of a small, rural community.

Provide brief explanation for strategies not selected and how the LEA plans to address their incorporation.

Course planning guides, local media reports, press releases, and the student handbook are all areas that need to be addressed. The planning guides and the student handbooks are areas that can be addressed by simply creating and/or modifying current district documents to include appropriate content. Being that Northern Potter is in a rural area, media coverage is limited; however, the schools can make more of an attempt to provide the local media with opportunities to distribute appropriate information.

## Safe and Supportive Schools

### *Assisting Struggling Schools*

Describe your entity's process for assisting schools that either do not meet the annual student achievement targets or experience other challenges, which deter student attainment of academic standards at a proficient level or higher.

If your entity has no struggling schools, explain how you will demonstrate continued growth in student achievement.

The Northern Potter School District's schools are continuously monitoring student achievement and using professional development opportunities and curriculum development activities to address deficiencies in our "struggling schools." The district will continue to offer a wide variety of opportunities, both academic and extra curricular to help address the needs of individual/groups of students in an effort to become "world class."

### *Programs, Strategies and Actions*

Programs, Strategies and Actions	EEP	EEI	ML	HS
Biennially Updated and Executed Memorandum of Understanding with Local Law Enforcement	X	X	X	X
School-wide Positive Behavioral Programs	X	X		
Conflict Resolution or Dispute Management	X	X		
Peer Helper Programs				
Safety and Violence Prevention Curricula	X	X	X	X
Student Codes of Conduct	X	X	X	X

Comprehensive School Safety and Violence Prevention Plans	X	X	X	X
Purchase of Security-related Technology	X	X	X	X
Student, Staff and Visitor Identification Systems	X	X	X	X
Placement of School Resource Officers				
Student Assistance Program Teams and Training	X	X	X	X
Counseling Services Available for all Students	X	X	X	X
Internet Web-based System for the Management of Student Discipline	X	X	X	X

Explanation of strategies not selected and how the LEA plans to address their incorporation:

The Northern Potter School District is a small, very rural school district. With that said, the district also provides a hub of activity. Unfortunately the rural location does not have access to many outside agencies, colleges and universities, and local businesses, so it must depend on its own resources and personnel. Both building principals, the elementary and high school guidance counselors, a half-time technology coordinator/teacher, a county sponsored Human Services intensive case manager based in the high school, one school nurse, and the members represented on various committees, like the NPSD Safety Committee, building leadership teams, elementary and high school SAP teams, wear many "hats" that cover many bases to ensure the safety and well being of students attending the NPSD.

### ***Identifying Gifted Students***

Describe your entity's process for identifying gifted children.

Clearly parents and teachers provide the first level of evidence of identifying gifted students. Another process of identifying gifted students involves analyzing student assessment data. Students testing in the "Advanced" levels using local assessment measures such as 4Sight, DIBLES, GMADE, CDTs, and state PSSA assessments and Keystone exams are also possible gifted candidates. Students who have been identified will go through the evaluation process and a team of teachers, building principals, guidance counselors, and parents will render a final decision concerning a gifted program.

### ***Developmental Services***

Developmental Services	EEP	EEI	ML	HS
Academic Counseling	X	X	X	X
Attendance Monitoring	X	X	X	X
Behavior Management Programs	X	X	X	X
Bullying Prevention	X	X	X	X
Career Awareness	X	X	X	X
Career Development/Planning		X	X	X
Coaching/Mentoring	X	X	X	X
Compliance with Health Requirements -i.e.,	X	X	X	X

Immunization				
Emergency and Disaster Preparedness	X	X	X	X
Guidance Curriculum	X	X	X	X
Health and Wellness Curriculum	X	X	X	X
Health Screenings	X	X	X	X
Individual Student Planning	X	X	X	X
Nutrition	X	X	X	X
Orientation/Transition	X	X	X	X
RtII	X	X		
Wellness/Health Appraisal	X	X	X	X

Explanation of developmental services:

*This narrative is empty.*

### ***Diagnostic, Intervention and Referral Services***

<b>Diagnostic, Intervention and Referral Services</b>	<b>EEP</b>	<b>EEI</b>	<b>ML</b>	<b>HS</b>
Accommodations and Modifications	X	X	X	X
Administration of Medication	X	X	X	X
Assessment of Academic Skills/Aptitude for Learning	X	X	X	X
Assessment/Progress Monitoring	X	X	X	X
Casework	X	X	X	X
Crisis Response/Management/Intervention	X	X	X	X
Individual Counseling	X	X	X	X
Intervention for Actual or Potential Health Problems	X	X	X	X
Placement into Appropriate Programs	X	X	X	X
Small Group Counseling-Coping with life situations	X	X	X	X
Small Group Counseling-Educational planning	X	X	X	X
Small Group Counseling-Personal and Social Development	X	X	X	X
Special Education Evaluation	X	X	X	X
Student Assistance Program	X	X	X	X

Explanation of diagnostic, intervention and referral services:

*This narrative is empty.*

### ***Consultation and Coordination Services***

<b>Consultation and Coordination Services</b>	<b>EEP</b>	<b>EEI</b>	<b>ML</b>	<b>HS</b>
Alternative Education	X	X	X	X
Case and Care Management	X	X	X	X
Community Liaison				
Community Services Coordination (Internal or External)	X	X	X	X

Coordinate Plans	X	X	X	X
Coordination with Families (Learning or Behavioral)	X	X	X	X
Home/Family Communication	X	X	X	X
Managing Chronic Health Problems	X	X	X	X
Managing IEP and 504 Plans	X	X	X	X
Referral to Community Agencies	X	X	X	X
Staff Development	X	X	X	X
Strengthening Relationships Between School Personnel, Parents and Communities	X	X	X	X
System Support	X	X	X	X
Truancy Coordination	X	X	X	X

Explanation of consultation and coordination services:

As a rural educational entity the district does an excellent job coordinating services with local and county agencies. There is a direct line of communication with the local emergency management teams, the area ministerium, the Potter County Commisioners, and Seneca Highlands IU9.

### ***Communication of Educational Opportunities***

<b>Communication of Educational Opportunities</b>	<b>EEP</b>	<b>EEI</b>	<b>ML</b>	<b>HS</b>
Course Planning Guides	X	X	X	X
Directing Public to the PDE & AYP Websites	X	X	X	X
Individual Meetings	X	X	X	X
Letters to Parents/Guardians	X	X	X	X
Local Media Reports	X	X	X	X
Website	X	X	X	X
Meetings with Community, Families and Board of Directors	X	X	X	X
Mass Phone Calls/Emails/Letters	X	X	X	X
Newsletters	X	X	X	X
Press Releases	X	X	X	X
School Calendar	X	X	X	X
Student Handbook	X	X	X	X
Electronic Billboard located at the entrance to the school's campus	X	X	X	X

### ***Communication of Student Health Needs***

<b>Communication of Student Health Needs</b>	<b>EEP</b>	<b>EEI</b>	<b>ML</b>	<b>HS</b>
Individual Meetings	X	X	X	X
Individual Screening Results	X	X	X	X
Letters to Parents/Guardians	X	X	X	X

Website	X	X	X	X
Meetings with Community, Families and Board of Directors	X	X	X	X
Newsletters	X	X	X	X
School Calendar	X	X	X	X
Student Handbook	X	X	X	X

### ***Frequency of Communication***

#### **Elementary Education - Primary Level**

- More than once a month

#### **Elementary Education - Intermediate Level**

- More than once a month

#### **Middle Level**

- More than once a month

#### **High School Level**

- More than once a month

### ***Collaboration for Interventions***

Describe the collaboration between classroom teachers and individuals providing interventions regarding differing student needs and academic progress.

Professional learning teams (PLT) have been established in the Northern Potter School District. Teams of teachers meet frequently to discuss students' needs and to plan instruction and processes to meet those needs. In both buildings, the learning support teachers and paraprofessional staff meet formally and informally with classroom teachers to plan instruction,

### ***Community Coordination***

Describe how you accomplish coordination with community operated infant and toddler centers, as well as preschool early intervention programs. In addition, describe the community coordination with the following before or after school programs and services for all grade levels, including pre-kindergarten, if offered, through grade 12.

1. Child care
2. After school programs
3. Youth workforce development programs
4. Tutoring



Seneca highlands IU 9 operates an early intervention program for preschool children ages 3-5 living in the Northern Potter School District. Students are transported to the early intervention program in a neighboring school district, Coudersport, PA which is located about 15 miles outside of the Northern Potter School District. In February of each year, the IU 9 early intervention supervisor contacts the Northern Potter Children's School principal to set up transition meetings for students eligible for the K4 or K5 program hosted at Northern Potter. Students are bussed to a few of the local day care providers and to Boy Scouts, and to another after-school program one day a week at a local church. Because of our rural location, three local community libraries provide after school and summer school reading programs. A local Girl Scout troop holds their meetings in a classroom in the school one day a week. Extra curricular music and sports activities such as practices, games, and performances are also held on site at either the NP Children's School or NP Junior-Senior High School.

### ***Preschool Agency Coordination***

Explain how the LEA coordinates with agencies that serve preschool age children with disabilities.

1. Address coordination activities designed to identify and serve children with disabilities and the supports and accommodations available to ensure both physical and programmatic access.
2. Address pre-kindergarten programs operated directly by the LEA and those operated by community agencies under contract from the LEA.
3. Describe how the LEA provides for a smooth transition from the home setting and any early childhood care or educational setting the students attend, to the school setting.

1. Seneca highlands IU 9 operates an early intervention program for preschool children ages 3-5 living in the Northern Potter School District. Students are transported to the program located in a neighboring school district, Coudersport, PA which is located about 15 miles outside of the Northern Potter School District. In February of each year, the IU 9 early intervention supervisor contacts the Northern Potter Children's School principal to set up transition meetings for students eligible for the K4 or K5 program hosted at Northern Potter. 2. Northern Potter operates a full-day K4 (2 classrooms) and K5 (2 classrooms) program. Both programs are housed in the Northern Potter Children's School. A Head Start program is held 2-3 days a week in the Harrison Valley community. 3. Seneca highlands IU 9 operates an early intervention program for preschool children ages 3-5 living in the Northern Potter School District. Students are transported to the program located in a neighboring school district, Coudersport, PA which is located about 15 miles outside of the Northern Potter School District. In February of each year, the IU 9 early intervention supervisor contacts the Northern Potter Children's School principal to set up transition meetings for students eligible for the K4 or K5 program hosted at Northern Potter.

## Materials and Resources

### *Description of Materials and Resources*

#### Elementary Education-Primary Level

Material and Resources Characteristics	Status
Aligned and supportive of academic standards, progresses level to level and demonstrates relationships among fundamental concepts and skills	Accomplished
A robust supply of high quality aligned instructional materials and resources available	Accomplished
Accessibility for students and teachers is effective and efficient	Accomplished
Differentiated and equitably allocated to accommodate diverse levels of student motivation, performance and educational needs	Accomplished

Provide explanation for processes used to ensure Accomplishment.

K-6 math and reading materials and curriculum maps support the PA Core Standards. Materials can be differentiated which allows teachers to teach at a level that students can understand. SMARTBOARDS and computers in every classroom and a wireless internet infrastructure allow teachers and students access to the most up-to-date information available to them on the web.

Explanation for any row checked "Needs Improvement" or "Non Existent". How the LEA plans to address their incorporation:

*This narrative is empty.*

#### Elementary Education-Intermediate Level

Material and Resources Characteristics	Status
Aligned and supportive of academic standards, progresses level to level and demonstrates relationships among fundamental concepts and skills	Accomplished
A robust supply of high quality aligned instructional materials and resources available	Accomplished
Accessibility for students and teachers is effective and efficient	Accomplished
Differentiated and equitably allocated to accommodate diverse levels of student motivation, performance and educational needs	Accomplished

Provide explanation for processes used to ensure Accomplishment.

K-6 math and reading materials and curriculum maps support the PA Core Standards. Materials can be differentiated which allows teachers to teach at a level that students can understand. SMARTBOARDS and computers in every classroom and a wireless internet infrastructure allow teachers and students access to the most up-to-date information available to them on the web.

Explanation for any row checked "Needs Improvement" or "Non Existent". How the LEA plans to address their incorporation:

*This narrative is empty.*

### **Middle Level**

<b>Material and Resources Characteristics</b>	<b>Status</b>
Aligned and supportive of academic standards, progresses level to level and demonstrates relationships among fundamental concepts and skills	Accomplished
A robust supply of high quality aligned instructional materials and resources available	Accomplished
Accessibility for students and teachers is effective and efficient	Accomplished
Differentiated and equitably allocated to accommodate diverse levels of student motivation, performance and educational needs	Accomplished

Provide explanation for processes used to ensure Accomplishment.

A variety of resources and materials exists at the middle school level in each subject area to support the curriculum. They range from traditional resources like textbooks and workbooks to more modern technological resources like computers and the Internet. This variety allows teachers to choose the best resources to teach concepts as well as provides the infrastructure to differentiate instruction.

Explanation for any row checked "Needs Improvement" or "Non Existent". How the LEA plans to address their incorporation:

*This narrative is empty.*

### **High School Level**

<b>Material and Resources Characteristics</b>	<b>Status</b>
Aligned and supportive of academic standards, progresses level to level and demonstrates relationships among fundamental concepts and skills	Accomplished
A robust supply of high quality aligned instructional materials and resources available	Accomplished
Accessibility for students and teachers is effective and efficient	Accomplished
Differentiated and equitably allocated to accommodate diverse levels of student motivation, performance and educational needs	Accomplished

Provide explanation for processes used to ensure Accomplishment.

A variety of resources and materials exists at the high school level in each subject area to support the curriculum. They range from traditional resources like textbooks and workbooks to more modern technological resources like computers and the Internet. This variety allows teachers to choose the best resources to teach concepts as well as provides the infrastructure to differentiate instruction.

Explanation for any row checked "Needs Improvement" or "Non Existent". How the LEA plans to address their incorporation:

*This narrative is empty.*

### ***SAS Incorporation***

#### **Elementary Education-Primary Level**

<b>Standards</b>	<b>Status</b>
Arts and Humanities	Full Implementation
Career Education and Work	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
Civics and Government	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
Common Core Standards: English Language Arts	Full Implementation
Common Core Standards: Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science and Technical Subjects	Full Implementation
Common Core Standards: Mathematics	Full Implementation
Economics	Level of Implementation is Unknown
Environment and Ecology	Full Implementation
Family and Consumer Sciences	Level of Implementation is Unknown
Geography	Full Implementation
Health, Safety and Physical Education	Full Implementation
History	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
Science and Technology and Engineering Education	Full Implementation
Alternate Academic Content Standards for Math	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
Alternate Academic Content Standards for Reading	Implemented in 50% or more of

	<b>district classrooms</b>
American School Counselor Association for Students	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
Early Childhood Education: Infant-Toddler&rarr;Second Grade	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
English Language Proficiency	Not Applicable
Interpersonal Skills	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
School Climate	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms

Further explanation for columns selected "

Northern Potter Children's School early childhood curriculum (K-3) does not include references to Economics, and Family and Consumer Sciences. Lessons relating to these two areas are incorporated into reading, math, social studies, and health, but teachers do not necessarily utilize SAS materials and resources. Northern Potter does not have an ESL population, however some components of ESL instruction, especially in the area of language processing and comprehension are of some value to students in need of speech and language support.

#### **Elementary Education-Intermediate Level**

<b>Standards</b>	<b>Status</b>
Arts and Humanities	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
Career Education and Work	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
Civics and Government	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
Common Core Standards: English Language Arts	Full Implementation
Common Core Standards: Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science and Technical Subjects	Full Implementation
Common Core Standards: Mathematics	Full Implementation

Economics	Implemented in less than 50% of district classrooms
Environment and Ecology	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
Family and Consumer Sciences	Implemented in less than 50% of district classrooms
Geography	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
Health, Safety and Physical Education	Full Implementation
History	Full Implementation
Science and Technology and Engineering Education	Full Implementation
Alternate Academic Content Standards for Math	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
Alternate Academic Content Standards for Reading	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
American School Counselor Association for Students	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
English Language Proficiency	Not Applicable
Interpersonal Skills	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
School Climate	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms

Further explanation for columns selected "

Northern Potter Children's School elementary curriculum in grades 4-6 includes few references to Economics, and Family and Consumer Sciences. Lessons relating to these two areas are incorporated into reading, math, social studies, and health, but teachers do not necessarily utilize SAS materials and resources. Northern Potter's does not have an ESL population, however some components of ESL instruction, especially in the area of language

processing and comprehension are of some value to students in need of speech and language support.

### Middle Level

Standards	Status
Arts and Humanities	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
Career Education and Work	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
Civics and Government	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
Common Core Standards: English Language Arts	Full Implementation
Common Core Standards: Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science and Technical Subjects	Full Implementation
Common Core Standards: Mathematics	Full Implementation
Economics	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
Environment and Ecology	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
Family and Consumer Sciences	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
Geography	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
Health, Safety and Physical Education	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
History	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
Science and Technology and Engineering Education	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms



	classrooms
Alternate Academic Content Standards for Math	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
Alternate Academic Content Standards for Reading	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
American School Counselor Association for Students	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
English Language Proficiency	Not Applicable
Interpersonal Skills	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
School Climate	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
World Language	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms

Further explanation for columns selected "

Northern Potter Jr./Sr. High School does not have an ESL population; however, some components of ESL instruction, especially in the area of language processing and comprehension are of some value to students in need of speech and language support.

### High School Level

Standards	Status
Arts and Humanities	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
Career Education and Work	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
Civics and Government	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
Common Core Standards: English Language Arts	Full Implementation
Common Core Standards: Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science and	Full



Technical Subjects	Implementation
Common Core Standards: Mathematics	Full Implementation
Economics	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
Environment and Ecology	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
Family and Consumer Sciences	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
Geography	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
Health, Safety and Physical Education	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
History	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
Science and Technology and Engineering Education	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
Alternate Academic Content Standards for Math	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
Alternate Academic Content Standards for Reading	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
American School Counselor Association for Students	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
English Language Proficiency	Not Applicable
Interpersonal Skills	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms
School Climate	Implemented in 50% or more of district

	<b>classrooms</b>
World Language	Implemented in 50% or more of district classrooms

Further explanation for columns selected "

Northern Potter Jr./Sr. High School does not have an ESL population; however, some components of ESL instruction, especially in the area of language processing and comprehension are of some value to students in need of speech and language support.

## ***Current Technology Services***

### **Required for LEA applying for eRate Priority 2 Funding**

Describe your current telecommunications services, hardware, software and other services used to implement education. What strengths and weaknesses, related to technology, have been identified by staff, students or parents?

Over the next five years, Northern Potter SD will move to a mobile/paperless paradigm in terms of teacher and student technology use\*. To accomplish this, several issues must be taken into consideration: Existing Equipment Infrastructure Transition design Student Safety Existing Equipment

Northern Potter SD currently utilizes approximately 200 mobile devices, 250 laptops, 150 laptops, and various peripherals (interactive whiteboards, projectors, scanners, and augmented reality equipment) in its classrooms. These devices/resources are more meticulously reported in NPSD's annual PATI reports. Infrastructure

NPSD currently utilizes a mix of fiber optic and Ethernet cable to transport data around campus. All data is filtered through an Edgewave Iprism device and is protected behind a managed firewall by our ISP Sting Communications. The district currently achieves a maximum speed of 50mbps and a minimum of 15Mbps via Ethernet with between 5 and 15 Mbps through an integrated Aerohive managed wi-fi network. In order to successfully move to a mobile, tablet-based environment, NPSD will have to expand wi-fi coverage to all instructional areas of campus (currently 85-90%), through the purchase of more Aerohive Access Points, while ensuring the data connections are the fastest possible (maintaining and upgrading cabling, routers, and switches). A new server, for DHCP, AD, and DNS services will be in place in 2014 and should end its service life as this plan expires. An upgrade to Server 2012 is scheduled for the 2014-2015 year. Similarly the 2013-2014 school year finds our newly upgraded security system (excluding the possibility of replacing door controllers), public address systems, and extant VOIP services in need of only maintenance over the course of this plan. Transition Design

Beginning in the 2014-2015 school year laptops and desktops utilized in the K4-3 will be replaced with the Unobook Tablet or similar device. High functioning laptops and desktops will be utilized in other areas of campus, while mid to low will be, upon board approval, sold to the public to off set new technology costs. This process will be repeated in the 4-6th

grades in 2015-2016, grade core teachers for 7-9th in 2016-2017, and 10-12 in 2017-2018. Infrastructure wi-fi and speed-related improvements will occur in these areas simultaneously. **Student Safety**

Moving to a mobile and paperless paradigm will require protected and archived methods of communication and student work submission. To protect students and, limit liability possibilities, beginning in 2015-2016, NPSD will contract with the Gaggle company\*\* to archive all @nopostudent emails and apps data. In addition the district will continue to subscribe to eBackpack for student submissions and staff communications. \*Office staff, administrators, and support personnel will receive upgrades to desktop workstations as needed. An upgrade to MS Office Suite 2013 or 360 will also be scheduled during this period. \*\*Currently archives all @northernpottersd.org email.

## ***Future Technology Services***

### **Required for LEA applying for eRate Priority 2 Funding**

Describe what specific telecommunications services, hardware, software and other services will be needed to improve education? (Address how you plan to take advantage of emerging technologies to improve education. Be sure to include the acquisition or implementation of such services/equipment within your Action Plans.)

Over the next five years, Northern Potter SD will move to a mobile/paperless paradigm in terms of teacher and student technology use\*. To accomplish this, several issues must be taken into consideration: Existing Equipment Infrastructure Transition design Student Safety **Existing Equipment**

Northern Potter SD currently utilizes approximately 200 mobile devices, 250 laptops, 150 laptops, and various peripherals (interactive whiteboards, projectors, scanners, and augmented reality equipment) in its classrooms. These devices/resources are more meticulously reported in NPSD's annual PATI reports. **Infrastructure**

NPSD currently utilizes a mix of fiber optic and Ethernet cable to transport data around campus. All data is filtered through an Edgewave Iprism device and is protected behind a managed firewall by our ISP Sting Communications. The district currently achieves a maximum speed of 50mbps and a minimum of 15Mbps via Ethernet with between 5 and 15 Mbps through an integrated Aerohive managed wi-fi network. In order to successfully move to a mobile, tablet-based environment, NPSD will have to expand wi-fi coverage to all instructional areas of campus (currently 85-90%), through the purchase of more Aerohive Access Points, while ensuring the data connections are the fastest possible (maintaining and upgrading cabling, routers, and switches). A new server, for DHCP, AD, and DNS services will be in place in 2014 and should end its service life as this plan expires. An upgrade to Server 2012 is scheduled for the 2014-2015 year. Similarly the 2013-2014 school year finds our newly upgraded security system (excluding the possibility of replacing door controllers), public address systems, and extant VOIP services in need of only maintenance over the course of this plan. **Transition Design**

Beginning in the 2014-2015 school year laptops and desktops utilized in the K4-3 will be

replaced with the Unobook Tablet or similar device. High functioning laptops and desktops will be utilized in other areas of campus, while mid to low will be, upon board approval, sold to the public to off set new technology costs. This process will be repeated in the 4-6th grades in 2015-2016, grade core teachers for 7-9th in 2016-2017, and 10-12 in 2017-2018. Infrastructure wi-fi and speed-related improvements will occur in these areas simultaneously. **Student Safety**

Moving to a mobile and paperless paradigm will require protected and archived methods of communication and student work submission. To protect students and, limit liability possibilities, beginning in 2015-2016, NPSD will contract with the Gaggie company\*\* to archive all @nopostudent emails and apps data. In addition the district will continue to subscribe to eBackpack for student submissions and staff communications. \*Office staff, administrators, and support personnel will receive upgrades to desktop workstations as needed. An upgrade to MS Office Suite 2013 or 360 will also be scheduled during this period. \*\*Currently archives all @northernpottersd.org email.

## Professional Education

### *Characteristics*

District's Professional Education Characteristics	EEP	EEI	ML	HS
Enhances the educator's content knowledge in the area of the educator's certification or assignment.	X	X	X	X
Increases the educator's teaching skills based on effective practice research, with attention given to interventions for struggling students.	X	X	X	X
Provides educators with a variety of classroom-based assessment skills and the skills needed to analyze and use data in instructional decision making.	X	X	X	X
Empowers educators to work effectively with parents and community partners.	X	X	X	X

District's Professional Education Characteristics	EEP	EEI	ML	HS
Provides the knowledge and skills to think and plan strategically, ensuring that assessments, curriculum, instruction, staff professional education, teaching materials and interventions for struggling students are aligned to each other, as well as to Pennsylvania's academic standards.	X	X	X	X
Provides leaders with the ability to access and use appropriate data to inform decision making.	X	X	X	X
Empowers leaders to create a culture of teaching and learning with an emphasis on learning.	X	X	X	X
Instructs the leader in managing resources for effective results.	X	X	X	X

Provide brief explanation of your process for ensuring these selected characteristics.

The Northern Potter School District has been proactive in providing opportunities for teachers, counselors, specialists and administrators to attend professional development trainings that will enhance their abilities to help students achieve to their maximum potential. We believe that not only should students learning be individualized and differentiated based on their abilities, but staff must also be encouraged to participate in professional development opportunities specifically related to their grade/subject area or to their individual needs. We encourage staff to attend professional development activities that they feel will help them with the district's overall mission, student achievement. Many of our staff have not only attended local or district offered professional development but also trainings at the state and national levels as well. We ask staff that have had these wonderful learning opportunities to share the information they have learned with their colleagues. Several of our teachers have been asked to present at local, state and national conferences as well.

Provide brief explanation for strategies not selected and how you plan to address their incorporation.

*This narrative is empty.*

### ***Strategies Ensuring Fidelity***

- Professional Development activities are based upon detailed needs assessments that utilize student assessment results to target instructional areas that need strengthening.
- Using disaggregated student data to determine educators' learning priorities.
- Professional Development activities are based upon detailed needs assessments that utilize student assessment results to target curricular areas that need further alignment.
- Professional Development activities are developed that support implementation of strategies identified in your action plan.
- The LEA has a systemic process that is used to validate whether or not providers have the capacity to present quality professional development.
- Administrators participate fully in all professional development sessions targeted for their faculties.
- Every Professional development initiative includes components that provide ongoing support to teachers regarding implementation.
- The LEA has an ongoing monitoring system in place (i.e. walkthroughs, classroom observations).
- Professional Education is evaluated to show its impact on teaching practices and student learning.

Provide brief explanation of your process for ensuring these selected characteristics.

The district believes strongly that teacher isolation is ineffective and does not promote student growth and achievement. Two years ago, the district began the process of implementing Professional Learning Communities in both schools within the district. Part of this process is determining what types of Professional development is needed to help students achieve. While we are not where we ultimately want to be with this process,

establishing PLC's and promoting a culture of collaboration is helping the district head in the "right direction." While we by no means have mastered all of the strategies ensuring fidelity in the process of selecting/developing an effective professional development model, we are improving every year with this process. Staff ownership in this process is paramount to having a successful program.

Provide brief explanation for strategies not selected and how you plan to address their incorporation.

There is a definite need to better define clear expectations to staff regarding how to communicate what they have learned to colleagues, administration, parents, students and the community. The district believes that "one shot" inservices/professional development without any follow through or without expectations is a waste of time, resources, and money. As part of this process, the district needs to improve in allowing staff to evaluate professional development opportunities they participate in and obtain information that will be vital in planning and developing future professional development activities.

### ***Induction Program***

- Inductees will know, understand and implement instructional practices validated by the LEA as known to improve student achievement.
- Inductees will assign challenging work to diverse student populations.
- Inductees will know the basic details and expectations related to LEA-wide initiatives, practices, policies and procedures.
- Inductees will know the basic details and expectations related to school initiatives, practices and procedures.
- Inductees will be able to access state curriculum frameworks and focus lesson design on leading students to mastery of all state academic standards, assessment anchors and eligible content (where appropriate) identified in the LEA's curricula.
- Inductees will effectively navigate the Standards Aligned System website.
- Inductees will know and apply LEA endorsed classroom management strategies.
- Inductees will know and utilize school/LEA resources that are available to assist students in crisis.
- Inductees will take advantage of opportunities to engage personally with other members of the faculty in order to develop a sense of collegiality and camaraderie.
- Inductees will be an active member of Professional Learning Communities with the school and district.

Provide brief explanation of your process for ensuring these selected characteristics.

Each new teacher will be assigned a mentor. The mentor and inductee receive a packet outlining the requirements of the district's Teacher Induction Plan. Included in the plan is a monthly schedule to be used as a guide to become familiar with the district as well as specific topics, procedures, best practices, etc.. that the Inductee must complete with the Mentor. Although we do not have a diverse student population, we have students with many different needs and challenges. Part of the Induction Plan is to address any concerns the Inductee/Mentor may have. Because we are a small district many teachers will be working with the inductee to ensure they meeting the needs of their students and becoming comfortable with school/district initiatives. policies, etc..Additionally, each nine weeks, the Inductee will complete a needs assessment to see what if any assistance they may need to be successful.

Provide brief explanation for strategies not selected and how you plan to address their incorporation.

Not applicable.

### ***Needs of Inductees***

- Frequent observations of inductee instructional practice by a coach or mentor to identify needs.
- Frequent observations of inductee instructional practice by supervisor to identify needs.
- Regular meetings with mentors or coaches to reflect upon instructional practice to identify needs.
- Student PSSA data.
- Standardized student assessment data other than the PSSA.
- Classroom assessment data (Formative & Summative).
- Review of inductee lesson plans.
- Review of written reports summarizing instructional activity.
- Knowledge of successful research-based instructional models.

Provide brief explanation of your process for ensuring these selected characteristics.

In order for a new teacher to be successful, they must be observed many times and be provided meaningful feedback. In additon, the new teacher should observe their mentor and other teachers who exemplify excellent teaching. Data analysis is key for any teacher to help differentiate instruction. All teachers in the district are provided additonal resources,

trainings, etc.. to help them become effective classroom teachers. In addition, inductees do a quarterly needs assessment to address any needs/concerns they may have. While we do not require inductees to complete a portfolio, it will become necessary to collect evidence as the new teacher evaluation tool becomes effective in the 2013-14 school year. Portfolios broken down by domains will be very helpful to document evidence and the district's administration is suggesting all teachers keep a portfolio.

Provide brief explanation for strategies not selected and you plan to address their incorporation.

Portfolios have been addressed with the advent of the new teacher evaluation tool. While the district does not do a survey for inductees, a needs assessment is completed quarterly during a teacher's first year as part of the Induction Plan. Typically, if a teacher new to our district has completed an induction plan in another district, we do not require an additional induction plan. However, the district may obtain a mentor to work with the new teacher after evaluating their performance and looking at the new teacher's needs to become an effective educator. As part of completing the district's Comprehensive Plan, the district administration will recommend revising/updating the district policy on Teacher Induction and Professional Development. In addition, the Induction Plan itself will be amended and presented to the Board for approval in the fall of 2013.

### ***Mentor Characteristics***

- Pool of possible mentors is comprised of teachers with outstanding work performance.
- Potential mentors have similar certifications and assignments.
- Potential mentors must model continuous learning and reflection.
- Potential mentors must have knowledge of LEA policies, procedures and resources.
- Potential mentors must have demonstrated ability to work effectively with students and other adults.
- Potential mentors must be willing to accept additional responsibility.
- Mentors must complete mentor training or have previous related experience (e.g., purpose of induction program and role of mentor, communication and listening skills, coaching and conferencing skills, problem-solving skills and knowledge of adult learning and development).
- Mentors must possess excellent organizational skills

Provide brief explanation of your process for ensuring these selected characteristics.

A mentor must be an educator who is an outstanding educator. Northern Potter is a small district. The administration makes every effort to match up teachers based on free periods and certifications. Sometimes that is not possible. When choosing a mentor, the administration looks for educators who model excellent teaching, believe and emulate life-long learning, are up to date on the latest research and best practices in teaching and learning, and they must be familiar with district policies, resources, and procedures. A mentor must work well with colleagues, students, parents, and the community. Mentors must be excellent communicators and listeners. A mentor must be able to be proactive



instead of reactive. They must be able to be honest with the new teacher and provide constructive criticism along with ways the new teacher can improve and model those behaviors/traits. Mentors must have excellent organizational skills and be flexible. They should be "change agents" and have a positive attitude.

Provide brief explanation for characteristics not selected and how you plan to address their incorporation.

It is not always possible to match a mentor with a new teacher and have a common schedule/planning period. With that said, the district will make every effort to give the mentor/inductee time to collaborate, meet, and observe each other.

### ***Induction Program Timeline***

<b>Topics</b>	<b>Aug-Sep</b>	<b>Oct-Nov</b>	<b>Dec-Jan</b>	<b>Feb-Mar</b>	<b>Apr-May</b>	<b>Jun-Jul</b>
<b>Code of Professional Practice and Conduct for Educators</b>	X	X	X	X	X	
<b>Assessments</b>	X	X	X	X	X	
<b>Best Instructional Practices</b>	X	X	X	X	X	
<b>Safe and Supportive Schools</b>	X	X	X	X	X	
<b>Standards</b>	X	X	X	X	X	
<b>Curriculum</b>	X	X	X	X	X	
<b>Instruction</b>	X	X	X	X	X	
<b>Accommodations and Adaptations for diverse learners</b>	X	X	X	X	X	
<b>Data informed decision making</b>	X	X	X	X	X	
<b>Materials and Resources for Instruction</b>	X	X	X	X	X	

If necessary, provide further explanation.

All topics(Listed above) should be introduced to the mentee at the beginning of the school year in August. These topics should be periodically addressed throughout the year between the mentor/mentee. Mentees will complete a needs assessment every nine weeks to determine what areas they still need to focus on or review with their mentors.

### ***Monitoring Evaluating and Induction Program***

Identify the procedures for monitoring and evaluating the Induction program.

When a new teacher is hired that has yet to go through the induction process in Pennsylvania, they are assigned a mentor by the district. The Northern Potter School District has a Teacher Induction Plan packet that is given to mentors and mentees(inductees) when they begin employment in the district. The expectations are as follows: The mentee will complete a needs assessment each nine weeks with their mentor to determine what areas they still need help/assistance with. In addition, the mentor/mentee are expected to meet at least weekly throughout the school year. As part of

these weekly meetings, the district has a guide as to some of the topics that need to be addressed. These topics include: Code of Professional Practices and Conduct for Educators, Assessments, Best Instructional Practices, Safe and Supportive Schools, Standards, Curriculum, Instruction, Accommodations and Adaptations for Diverse Learners, Data Informed Decision Making, and Materials and Resources for Instruction. In addition, the following areas should be addressed:

August/September: Mentee Observes Mentor with Focus on Classroom Management, Communicating with Parents, Lesson and Unit Planning, Organization and Time Management, and School/District Policies/Procedures.

October: Mentor Observes Mentee with Focus on Classroom Management

Skills November/December: Mentor Observes Mentee with Focus on Engaging Students in Learning

January-March: Mentee observes Mentor with Focus on Assessing Student Learning Using Multiple Assessments. Mentor observes mentee with Focus on Questioning Techniques

April-May: Mentor observes Mentee with Focus on Instruction/Student Growth

These are minimum guidelines for the mentor and mentee and by no means restrict them to focus on other topics in addition to the ones stated above. Additionally, the mentor and mentee sign a Mid-Year Review and End-of-Year Review sheet stating that they have followed the minimum guidelines set forth in the district's Induction Plan and that they have met with the building principal to discuss any items of concern on an on-going basis. Once the End-of-Year Review has been signed, the mentor will forward to the building principal for review. Once they have reviewed, the building principal submits to the superintendent.

### ***Recording Process***

Identify the recording process for inductee participation and program completion. (Check all that apply)

- Mentor documents his/her inductee's involvement in the program.
- A designated administrator receives, evaluates and archives all mentor records.
- School/LEA maintains accurate records of program completion and provide a certificate or statement of completion to each inductee who has completed the program.
- LEA administrator receives, tallies, and archives all LEA mentor records.
- Completion is verified by the LEA Chief Administrator on the Application for Level 2 Certification.

## **Special Education**

### ***Special Education Students***

Total students identified: **91**

### ***Identification Method***

Identify the District's method for identifying students with specific learning disabilities.

The Northern Potter School District uses the Discrepancy Model to identify students who have a specific learning disability.

### ***Enrollment***

Review the Enrollment Difference Status. If necessary, describe how your district plans to address any significant disproportionalities.

The data is publicly available via the PennData website. You can view your most recent report. The link is: <http://penndata.hbg.psu.edu/BSEReports>

The Northern Potter School District does not have any significant disproportionalities in the number of special education students in the district.

### ***Non-Resident Students Oversight***

1. How does the District meet its obligation under Section 1306 of the Public School Code as the host District at each location?
2. How does the District ensure that students are receiving a free appropriate public education (FAPE) in the least restrictive environment (LRE)?
3. What problems or barriers exist which limit the District's ability to meet its obligations under Section 1306 of the Public School Code?

At this time there are no 1306 students within the Northern Potter School District. Should this change during the time frame of this plan we will work with the facility as well as the home district to provide an appropriate education.

### ***Incarcerated Students Oversight***

Describe the system of oversight the District would implement to ensure that all incarcerated students who may be eligible for special education are located, identified, evaluated and when deemed eligible, are offered a free appropriate public education (FAPE).

At this time there are no facilities within the Northern Potter School District.

### ***Least Restrictive Environment***

1. Describe the District procedures, which ensure that, to the maximum extent appropriate, children with disabilities, including those in private institutions, are educated with non-disabled children, and that removal from the regular education environment only occurs when education in that setting with supplementary aids and services, cannot be achieved satisfactorily.

2. Describe how the District is replicating successful programs, evidence-based models, and other PDE sponsored initiatives to enhance or expand the continuum of supports/services and education placement options available within the District to support students with disabilities access the general education curriculum in the least restrictive environment (LRE). (Provide information describing the manner in which the District utilizes site-based training, consultation and technical assistance opportunities available through PDE/PaTTAN, or other public or private agencies.)
3. Refer to and discuss the SPP targets and the district's percentages in the Indicator 5 section - Educational Environments. Also discuss the number of students placed out of the district and how those placements were determined to assure that LRE requirements are met.

#### **Least Restrictive EnvironmentNorthern Potter Area SD**

aims to ensure that, to the maximum extent appropriate, students with disabilities are educated with non-disabled children, and that removal from the regular education environment only occurs when education in that setting with supplementary aids and services, cannot be achieved satisfactorily. The Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) for a student depends upon the IEP team's determination of what is appropriate for the student. Guiding questions for IEP team consideration focus first on what will be provided for a student before questions of where it will be provided. The following guiding questions lead IEP teams toward appropriate decision making:- Can appropriate education (determined by the IEP team) be achieved in the regular class with supports already in place?- Can the regular classroom and teaching be modified by providing supplementary aids and services in order to achieve appropriate education?- Can appropriate education be achieved in the next, more restrictive setting with services currently in place?- Can the next more restrictive setting be modified by providing supplementary aids and services in order to achieve appropriate education?- Are there additional opportunities for integration, either through extracurricular activities, or while achieving some IEP goals?**Northern Potter Area SD**

emphasizes IEP team decision making in determining the appropriate educational placements for students with disabilities. IEP teams determine the LRE based on students' needs. Currently **Northern Potter Area SD**

professional staff development initiatives have included trainings in a variety of areas including inclusionary practices, co-teaching, and differentiated instruction in efforts to increase capacity for meeting students' needs within their LRE. Additional training will be determined and scheduled based on results of an annual survey and discussions with administrative staff to be held on established in-service days or other specified dates

#### ***Behavior Support Services***

Provide a summary of the District policy on behavioral support services including, but not limited to, the school wide positive behavior supports (PBS). Describe training provided to staff in the use of positive behavior supports, de-escalation techniques and responses to behavior that may require immediate intervention. If the district also has School-Based Behavioral Health Services, please discuss it.

## **Behavior Support Services**

### **Positive Behavior Support:**

Our district is committed to providing a free appropriate public education to all students in the least restrictive environment. In pursuit of that goal the district has established a Positive Behavior Support Policy. This policy defines positive behavior support and that individual positive behavior support plans shall be developed as part of the IEP team process and that such plans will be based on positive rather than negative techniques. Our school board's Positive Behavior Support policy also defines aversive techniques and establishes which techniques will not be used. In addition the policy establishes what a physical restraint is and prohibits the use of prone restraints. The board has also, established when restraints can be used, or included in an eligible student's IEP. Our district staff works together to ensure appropriate levels of behavior support and mental health services are available for all students. At the elementary level each grade level team has developed a positive behavior ticket system plan that was submitted to the principal for approval prior to implementation. These grade level positive ticket systems acknowledge appropriate behaviors and are based on school wide expectations. At the elementary school individual students may receive extra support from a team of teachers and the guidance counselor. This extra support may take the form of individualized support plans prior to referral to special education and always include parental support and participation. At both the elementary and high school the guidance counselors provide brief counseling and mediation support on an as needed basis to students. Furthermore, both of our guidance counselors, assist students and administration with day to day referrals for behavioral and mental health issues and assist with implementation the Student Assistance Program. Our district also contracts through Dickinson Behavioral Health Services to provide Intensive Case Management services to our students. The Intensive Case Manager helps with attendance and truancy issues, helps maintain and support contact and dialog between school and home, supports contacts between administration and Potter County Children and Youth Services, helps with Childline reporting issues, assists with short term counseling, helps children process discipline events, assists with home visits as needed. School Psychology services are provided through contract with the local IU. Within our district the school psychologist assists with individual counseling as determined by the IEP team and provides behavioral consultations on an as needed basis. Our school psychologist also is the lead staff member responsible for facilitation of Functional Behavior Assessments (FBA). **De-escalation techniques:**

All special education contracted employees from the Intermediate Unit are certified as Safety Care specialists within the first year of their employment. The district has recognized the need to extend this training to identified district staff members. The Safety Care training curriculum incorporates specific prevention and de-escalation strategies that can be applied to many situations. As needed these prevention and de-escalation strategies can be incorporated into students' Individualized Education Plans and Positive Behavior Support Plans.

### ***Intensive Interagency/Ensuring FAPE/Hard to Place Students***

1. If the LEA is having difficulty ensuring FAPE for an individual student or a particular disability category, describe the procedures and analysis methods used to determine gaps in the continuum of special education supports, services and education placement options available for students with disabilities.
2. Include information detailing successful programs, services, education placements as well as identified gaps in current programs, services, and education placements not available within the LEA. Include an overview of services provided through interagency collaboration within the LEA.
3. Discuss any expansion of the continuum of services planned during the life of this plan.

The Northern Potter School District attempts to provide a wide range of services within the school district starting with the 2013-2014 school year will be adding an elementary Autism Support class and a secondary Life Skills support class within the district. The district also works with the Intermediate Unit and county agencies for appropriate placements for students who at the present time are unable to be served within the district.

### ***Strengths and Highlights***

Describe the strengths and highlights of your current special education services and programs. Include in this section directions on how the district provides trainings for staff, faculty and parents.

\*\*\*\*\*LOOK AT STRATEGIC PLAN FOR STRENGTHS WITHIN OUR  
DISTRICT\*\*\*\*\*

# Assurances

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## Safe and Supportive Schools Assurances

The LEA has verified the following Assurances:

- Implementation of a comprehensive and integrated K-12 program of student services based on the needs of its students. (in compliance with § 12.41(a))
- Free Education and Attendance (in compliance with § 12.1)
- School Rules (in compliance with § 12.3)
- Collection, maintenance and dissemination of student records (in compliance § 12.31(a) and § 12.32)
- Discrimination (in compliance with § 12.4)
- Corporal Punishment (in compliance with § 12.5)
- Exclusion from School, Classes, Hearings (in compliance with § 12.6, § 12.7, § 12.8)
- Freedom of Expression (in compliance with § 12.9)
- Flag Salute and Pledge of Allegiance (in compliance with § 12.10)
- Hair and Dress (in compliance with § 12.11)
- Confidential Communications (in compliance with § 12.12)
- Searches (in compliance with § 12.14)
- Emergency Care and Administration of Medication and Treatment (in compliance with 35 P.S. § 780-101—780-144)
- Parents or guardians are informed regarding individual survey student assessments and provided a process for refusal to participate (consistent with § 445 of the General Education Provisions Act (20 U.S.C.A. § 1232h) and in compliance with § 12.41(d))
- Persons delivering student services shall be specifically licensed or certified as required by statute or regulation (in compliance with § 12.41(e))
- Development and Implementation of Local Wellness Program (in compliance with Public Law 108-265, Section 204)
- Early Intervention Services System Act (if applicable) (11 P.S. § 875-101—875-503)

- Establishment and Implementation of Student Assistance Programs at all of levels of the school system
- Acceptable Use Policy for Technology Resources
- Providing career information and assessments so that students and parents or guardians might become aware of the world of work and career options available.

## **Special Education Assurances**

The Local Education Agency (District) has verified the following Assurances:

- Implementation of a full range of services, programs and alternative placements available to the school district for placement and implementation of the special education programs in the school district.
- Implementation of a child find system to locate, identify and evaluate young children and children who are thought to be a child with a disability eligible for special education residing within the school district's jurisdiction. Child find data is collected, maintained and used in decision-making. Child find process and procedures are evaluated for its effectiveness. The District implements mechanisms to disseminate child find information to the public, organizations, agencies and individuals on at least an annual basis.
- Assurances of students with disabilities are included in general education programs and extracurricular and non-academic programs and activities to the maximum extent appropriate in accordance with an Individualized Education Program.
- Compliance with the PA Department of Education, Bureau of Special Education's report revision notice process.
- Following the state and federal guidelines for participation of students with disabilities in state and district-wide assessments including the determination of participation, the need for accommodations, and the methods of assessing students for whom regular assessment is not appropriate.
- Assurance of funds received through participation in the medical assistance reimbursement program, ACCESS, will be used to enhance or expand the current level of services and programs provided to students with disabilities in this local education agency.

## **24 P.S. §1306 and §1306.2 Facilities**

*There are no facilities.*



### Least Restrictive Environment Facilities

Facility Name	Type of Facility	Type of Service	Number of Students Placed
Coudersport Elementary School	Neighboring School Districts	Autistic Support	1
Oswayo Valley High School	Neighboring School Districts	Secondary Life Skills	6
Austin Elementary/Junior Senior High School	Neighboring School Districts	Secondary Emotional Support	1
Beacon Light	Other	Alternative Education for disruptive youth	3
Coudersport Elementary School	Neighboring School Districts	Emotional Support	1

### Special Education Program Profile

#### Program Position #1

Operator: School District

#### PROGRAM SEGMENTS

Location/Building	Grade	Building Type	Support	Service Type	Age Range	Caseload	FTE
Northern Potter Children's School	An Elementary School Building	A building in which General Education programs are operated	Itinerant	Life Skills Support	5 to 14	25	1
Justification: This teacher services student's in grades K-6.							

#### Program Position #2

Operator: School District

#### PROGRAM SEGMENTS

Location/Building	Grade	Building Type	Support	Service Type	Age Range	Caseload	FTE
Northern Potter High School	A Junior/Senior High School Building	A building in which General Education programs are operated	Itinerant	Learning Support	12 to 15	12	0.95
Northern Potter High School	A Junior/Senior High School Building	A building in which General Education programs are	Supplemental (Less Than 80% but More Than 20%)	Learning Support	12 to 15	1	0.05

		operated					
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**Program Position #3***Operator: School District***PROGRAM SEGMENTS**

Location/Building	Grade	Building Type	Support	Service Type	Age Range	Caseload	FTE
Northern Potter High School	A Junior/Senior High School Building	A building in which General Education programs are operated	Itinerant	Learning Support	15 to 18	13	1

**Program Position #4***Operator: School District***PROGRAM SEGMENTS**

Location/Building	Grade	Building Type	Support	Service Type	Age Range	Caseload	FTE
Northern Potter High School	A Junior/Senior High School Building	A building in which General Education programs are operated	Itinerant	Learning Support	16 to 18	9	1

**Program Position #5***Operator: Intermediate Unit***PROGRAM SEGMENTS**

Location/Building	Grade	Building Type	Support	Service Type	Age Range	Caseload	FTE
Northern Potter Children's School	An Elementary School Building	A building in which General Education programs are operated	Itinerant	Speech and Language Support	4 to 15	30	1
Justification: Teacher services student's in PK-6							

**Program Position #6***Operator: Intermediate Unit***PROGRAM SEGMENTS**

Location/Building	Grade	Building Type	Support	Service Type	Age Range	Caseload	FTE
Northern Potter High School	A Junior/Senior High School Building	A building in which General Education programs are operated	Itinerant	Speech and Language Support	15 to 21	3	1
Justification: Teacher services students in grades 7-12.							

**Program Position #7***Operator: Intermediate Unit***PROGRAM SEGMENTS**

Location/Building	Grade	Building	Support	Service	Age	Caseload	FTE
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		Type		Type	Range		
Northern Tier Children's Home/Northern Potter High School	A Junior/Senior High School Building	A building in which General Education programs are operated	Full-Time Special Education Class	Autistic Support	21 to 21	1	1

**Program Position #8**

Operator: Intermediate Unit

**PROGRAM SEGMENTS**

Location/Building	Grade	Building Type	Support	Service Type	Age Range	Caseload	FTE
Northern Potter Children's School	An Elementary School Building	A building in which General Education programs are operated	Supplemental (Less Than 80% but More Than 20%)	Multiple Disabilities Support	6 to 12	8	1

Justification: This teacher services students from grades K-6.

**Special Education Support Services**

Support Service	Location	Teacher FTE
N/A (We contract our services with IU 9-Please see section under contracted services)	See above	0

**Special Education Contracted Services**

Special Education Contracted Services	Operator	Amt of Time per Week
Occupational Therapy	Intermediate Unit	1 Hours
Physical Therapy	Intermediate Unit	1 Hours
School Psychologist	Intermediate Unit	1 Days
Special Education Supervisor	Intermediate Unit	1 Days

# Needs Assessment

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## Record School Patterns

### Question:

After reviewing school level accomplishments and systemic challenges, what patterns can you identify among your schools?

What other information do you still need to assess?

### Answer:

Overall, we believe that many of the initiatives we have undertaken are beginning to show signs of helping student achievement. In our 2013 PSSA data, we saw scores at the elementary level basically remain stationary. Considering this was the first year that the PSSA-M test was not given to students who have learning disabilities and these students were required to take the regular PSSA test is a positive sign. At the high school, we saw significant improvement in math and reading scores at the 7th and 8th grade level. In addition, student growth, which has been in the negative, was positive in grade 8. We believe that incorporating PLN/Formative Assessment strategies across the district, teacher collaboration, Professional Learning Communities, and common language being spoken amongst the staff on best practices has had a positive impact on our student scores on state assessments. As we begin the transition to PA Core standards and the assessments that go along with them, we will need to assess how our revised curricula and data analysis impact student learning. We also need to continue monitoring attendance/drop out rates and look at trends/reasons for poor attendance/dropouts and develop ways to improve in those areas. Getting parents more involved, especially at the secondary level continues to be an issue that we are addressing and attempting to improve as well.

## District Accomplishments

### Accomplishment #1:

The Northern Potter School District has continued to make AYP for several consecutive years. Additionally, the district is recognized regionally as a leader in technology integration. Many of our teachers have been asked to present at local, state, national, and international conferences. In addition, our students have been selected to present at the PSBA State Conference in Hershey. 2013 marks the second year in a row students will be presenting at the Conference's Student Showcase.

Northern Potter Children's School recently received state recognition for their 4th grade science scores. Northern Potter High School was recognized by the state for their inclusionary programs for special education students. Last year, the high school was recognized by the state for their SAP (Student Assistance Program).

Northern Potter School District has collaborated with other Potter County School Districts, McKean County School Districts, the Potter County Education Council, and Charles Cole Memorial Hospital to bring several state and federal grants to our school district. In the past several years, the consortium has received in excess of \$1,000,000 in grant programs. Northern Potter School District oversaw a county-wide Carol M. White Physical Fitness grant that ran from 2009-2013. This grant alone brought in approximately \$500,000 to enhance our physical education/wellness initiatives.

## **District Concerns**

### **Concern #1:**

The Northern Potter School District's number one priority and thus number one concern is student achievement. While we have had success at both the elementary and high school regarding state assessment scores, there are several areas that we feel need improved. They are:

Writing at the 5th grade level (Did exhibit growth on PVAAS in 2013)

Reading and Math across the district, especially on the Algebra 1 Keystone Exam

The Biology scores on the Keystone Exam

The Literature scores on the Keystone Exam

Graduation rates at the high school

Student academic growth, especially at the secondary level

### **Concern #2:**

The district data on student academic growth has been mixed at best. Another concern we have is that all students show academic growth regardless of their ability. We have instituted some initiatives (PLN training, Formative Assessment Training, Professional Learning Communities) and have seen some positive results in student growth, especially in grades 3-6 in all tested subjects, 7th grade reading and 8th grade in all tested subjects. Our goal is to continue to strive for all students to exhibit growth every year regardless of their abilities.

### **Concern #3:**

While the district has met AYP requirements regarding student attendance at the elementary school and graduation rates at the high school, these are still areas we feel are concerns and feel

improvement in both areas are necessary. We believe by engaging students and parents more, providing hybrid models of educating students (blending online with traditional), creating safety nets for students who are having academic/behavior problems, using research-based/best practices in instruction, and collaborating with colleagues that we will see improvement in these areas in the future.

**Concern #4:**

The continued lack of state and federal funding is a serious problem across the state and country. The Northern Potter School District is not immune from these financial issues. It is estimated that the district has between 5-7 years of fund balance left before it runs out of reserves unless something is done to help our district financially. As a district, we have been diligent in our ability to cut costs while still providing a quality education. We have eliminated approximately 10 teaching positions, mainly through attrition, over the past 6 years. The cost of cyberschools, employee retirement costs, health insurance increases, and special education are the main factors causing economic hardship to our district in addition to the many unfunded mandates that continue to be required by the state and federal governments.

## **Prioritized Systemic Challenges**

**Systemic Challenge #1 (*System #5*)** Establish a district system that fully ensures barriers to student learning are addressed in order to increase student achievement and graduation rates.

**Aligned Concerns:**

The Northern Potter School District's number one priority and thus number one concern is student achievement. While we have had success at both the elementary and high school regarding state assessment scores, there are several areas that we feel need improved. They are:

Writing at the 5th grade level (Did exhibit growth on PVAAS in 2013)

Reading and Math across the district, especially on the Algebra 1 Keystone Exam

The Biology scores on the Keystone Exam

The Literature scores on the Keystone Exam

Graduation rates at the high school

Student academic growth, especially at the secondary level

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The district data on student academic growth has been mixed at best. Another concern we have is that all students show academic growth regardless of their ability. We have

instituted some initiatives (PLN training, Formative Assessment Training, Professional Learning Communities) and have seen some positive results in student growth, especially in grades 3-6 in all tested subjects, 7th grade reading and 8th grade in all tested subjects. Our goal is to continue to strive for all students to exhibit growth every year regardless of their abilities.

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**Systemic Challenge #2 (System #1)** Establish a district system that fully ensures consistent implementation of standards aligned curricula across all schools for all students.

**Aligned Concerns:**

The Northern Potter School District's number one priority and thus number one concern is student achievement. While we have had success at both the elementary and high school regarding state assessment scores, there are several areas that we feel need improved. They are:

Writing at the 5th grade level (Did exhibit growth on PVAAS in 2013)

Reading and Math across the district, especially on the Algebra 1 Keystone Exam

The Biology scores on the Keystone Exam

The Literature scores on the Keystone Exam

Graduation rates at the high school

Student academic growth, especially at the secondary level

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The district data on student academic growth has been mixed at best. Another concern we have is that all students show academic growth regardless of their ability. We have instituted some initiatives (PLN training, Formative Assessment Training, Professional Learning Communities) and have seen some positive results in student growth, especially in grades 3-6 in all tested subjects, 7th grade reading and 8th grade in all tested subjects. Our goal is to continue to strive for all students to exhibit growth every year regardless of their abilities.

**Systemic Challenge #3 (System #2)** Establish a district system that fully ensures the consistent implementation of effective instructional practices across all classrooms in each school.

**Aligned Concerns:**

The Northern Potter School District's number one priority and thus number one concern is student achievement. While we have had success at both the elementary and high school regarding state assessment scores, there are several areas that we feel need improved. They are:

Writing at the 5th grade level (Did exhibit growth on PVAAS in 2013)

Reading and Math across the district, especially on the Algebra 1 Keystone Exam

The Biology scores on the Keystone Exam

The Literature scores on the Keystone Exam

Graduation rates at the high school

Student academic growth, especially at the secondary level

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The district data on student academic growth has been mixed at best. Another concern we have is that all students show academic growth regardless of their ability. We have instituted some initiatives (PLN training, Formative Assessment Training, Professional Learning Communities) and have seen some positive results in student growth, especially in grades 3-6 in all tested subjects, 7th grade reading and 8th grade in all tested subjects. Our goal is to continue to strive for all students to exhibit growth every year regardless of their abilities.

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While the district has met AYP requirements regarding student attendance at the elementary school and graduation rates at the high school, these are still areas we feel are concerns and feel improvement in both areas are necessary. We believe by engaging students and parents more, providing hybrid models of educating students (blending online with traditional), creating safety nets for students who are having academic/behavior problems, using research-based/best practices in instruction, and collaborating with colleagues that we will see improvement in these areas in the future.

**Systemic Challenge #4 (System #7)** Establish a district system that fully ensures students who are academically at risk are identified early and are supported by a process that provides interventions based upon student needs and includes procedures for monitoring effectiveness.

**Aligned Concerns:**



The district data on student academic growth has been mixed at best. Another concern we have is that all students show academic growth regardless of their ability. We have instituted some initiatives (PLN training, Formative Assessment Training, Professional Learning Communities) and have seen some positive results in student growth, especially in grades 3-6 in all tested subjects, 7th grade reading and 8th grade in all tested subjects. Our goal is to continue to strive for all students to exhibit growth every year regardless of their abilities.

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While the district has met AYP requirements regarding student attendance at the elementary school and graduation rates at the high school, these are still areas we feel are concerns and feel improvement in both areas are necessary. We believe by engaging students and parents more, providing hybrid models of educating students (blending online with traditional), creating safety nets for students who are having academic/behavior problems, using research-based/best practices in instruction, and collaborating with colleagues that we will see improvement in these areas in the future.

# District Level Plan

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## Action Plans

**Goal #1:** Establish a district system that fully ensures barriers to student learning are addressed in order to increase student achievement and graduation rates.

### Related Challenges:

- Establish a district system that fully ensures consistent implementation of standards aligned curricula across all schools for all students.
- Establish a district system that fully ensures the consistent implementation of effective instructional practices across all classrooms in each school.

### Indicators of Effectiveness:

Type: Summative

Data Source: PSSA, PA Core Tests, Keystone Exams, DIBELS, GMADE, Graduation Rates, Grades

Specific Targets: Increase in the number of students attaining Proficient or Higher on state/local assessments but equally as important, focus on student growth and ensuring that each student is showing growth regardless of their abilities or disability.

Type: Formative

Data Source: Formative Assessment data in daily classroom teaching using various modes of assessment.

Specific Targets: Teachers will assess all students using formative assessment strategies. Teachers will use this data to drive/differentiate their instruction. If this is done consistently across the district, we believe student achievement on summative assessments will increase.

### Strategies:

*Character and Social Skill Building Programs*

**Description:** WWC has identified programs for which there is evidence of the programs having a positive effect on character and social skill building. (Sources: <http://www.positiveaction.net/content/PDFs/Character-education-topic-report.pdf> and WWC/IES Practice Guide: Reducing Behavior Problems in the Elementary School Classroom: [http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/pdf/practice\\_guides/behavior\\_pg\\_092308.pdf](http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/pdf/practice_guides/behavior_pg_092308.pdf) )

**SAS Alignment:** Safe and Supportive Schools

### *Data Analysis Procedures, Data-Informed Instruction, Data Teams & Data Warehousing*

**Description:** Using Student Achievement Data to Support Instructional Decision Making provides a WWC reporting of various strategies related to the acquisition, analysis, and application of student data. (Source: [http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/pdf/practice\\_guides/dddm\\_pg\\_092909.pdf](http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/pdf/practice_guides/dddm_pg_092909.pdf) )

**SAS Alignment:** Assessment, Instruction

### *Dropout Prevention Expansion*

**Description:** WWC identifies 6 dropout prevention strategies for which empirical evidence exists that indicates the strategies reduce dropout rates. (Source: [http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/pdf/practice\\_guides/dp\\_pg\\_090308.pdf](http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/pdf/practice_guides/dp_pg_090308.pdf) ) The National Dropout Prevention Center/Network provides a list with resources for 15 strategies the organization claims to be “effective” and “have the most positive impact on the dropout rate.,” the Mid-Atlantic REL provides additional support for Dropout Prevention. (Sources: <http://www.dropoutprevention.org/effective-strategies> and [http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/edlabs/regions/midatlantic/pdf/REL\\_2011103.pdf](http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/edlabs/regions/midatlantic/pdf/REL_2011103.pdf) )

**SAS Alignment:** Safe and Supportive Schools

### *Positive Behavior Support*

**Description:** “Positive behavior support strives to use a system to understand what maintains an individual's challenging behavior...It also summarizes and creates a hypothesis about the behavior, and directly observes the behavior and takes data to get a baseline. The positive behavior support process involves goal identification, information gathering, hypothesis development, support plan design, implementation and monitoring...Strategies are needed that teachers and parents are able and willing to use and that have an impact on the child's ability to participate in community and school activities.” (Source: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Positive\\_behavior\\_support](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Positive_behavior_support) ) Measures of

fidelity of PBS implementation were established in 2009, which means that the correlation between fidelity of implementation and measures of student behavior (e.g. number of behavioral referrals) can and needs to be determined before PBS can be verified as having a statistically significant impact on student behavior. A number of tools provide indicators of implementation, but indicators of effectiveness remain to be verified. The following site provides technical information related to PBS. (Source: <http://www.pbis.org/default.aspx> ) While empirical evidence is being developed regarding the effectiveness of School Wide PBS at the high school level, there is initial support for use of PBS in high schools. (Source: [http://www.pbis.org/school/high\\_school\\_pbis.aspx](http://www.pbis.org/school/high_school_pbis.aspx) )

**SAS Alignment:** Safe and Supportive Schools

### ***Action Steps:***

*Increase student graduation rates and achievement.*

#### **Description:**

1. Establish grade-level collaborative Professional Learning Teams
2. Professional staff "brainstorm" ways to motivate individual students to engage them in learning and stress the importance of performing their best on various assessments.
3. Use various research-based strategies by professional staff in their daily teaching, including formative assessment, PLN strategies, higher-level questioning, and motivational strategies that match the target population.

**Start Date:** 10/1/2013    **End Date:** 6/30/2014

**Program Area(s):** Professional Education

**Supported Strategies:** None selected

**Goal #2:** Establish a district system that fully ensures the consistent implementation of effective instructional practices across all classrooms in each school.

#### **Related Challenges:**

- Establish a district system that fully ensures barriers to student learning are addressed in order to increase student achievement and graduation rates.

#### **Indicators of Effectiveness:**

Type: Summative

Data Source: Increased scores/Growth on state and local assessments, grades, attendance

Specific Targets: The district will continue to offer a variety of professional development activities/resources to all professional staff that is research based on best practices in student achievement and graduation rates.

## ***Strategies:***

### ***Differentiating Instruction***

**Description:** Empirical validation of differentiated instruction as a package was not found; however, a large number of testimonials and classroom examples of positive effects have been reported. (Sources: Learning Styles: Concepts and Evidence, [http://www.psychologicalscience.org/journals/pspi/PSPI\\_9\\_3.pdf](http://www.psychologicalscience.org/journals/pspi/PSPI_9_3.pdf) ; Differentiated Instruction: Effective classroom practices report, <http://www.cast.org/system/galleries/download/ncac/Diflnstruc.pdf> ; Learning Styles, [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Learning\\_styles#cite\\_note-33](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Learning_styles#cite_note-33) ; WWC: Assisting Students Struggling with Reading: Response to Intervention and Multi-Tier Intervention in the Primary Grades, [http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/pdf/practice\\_guides/rti\\_reading\\_pg\\_021809.pdf](http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/pdf/practice_guides/rti_reading_pg_021809.pdf) Differentiated Instruction Reexamined, <http://www.hepg.org/hel/article/499>; Investigating the Impact of Differentiated Instruction in Mixed Ability Classrooms, <http://www.icsei.net/icsei2011/Full%20Papers/0155.pdf> )

**SAS Alignment:** Instruction

### ***Increased Quality Instructional Time***

**Description:** Changes in instructional time do not generally increase or decrease student achievement, unless such changes go beyond unusually low, or high, amounts of time. Curriculum and instructional quality appear to have a much greater effect on achievement than do total hours of instructional time. The addition of high-quality teaching time is of particular benefit to certain groups of students, such as low-income students and others who have little opportunity for learning outside of school. (Sources: <http://www.ascd.org/publications/researchbrief/v3n10/toc.aspx> , and <http://www.educationsector.org/publications/clock-rethinking-way-schools-use-time> )

**SAS Alignment:** Instruction, Safe and Supportive Schools

## *Instructional (Distributed) Leadership Capacity Building*

**Description:** Support of the relationship of distributive leadership with student achievement is anecdotal and inferential and substantially reported. (Sources: [http://www.learningpt.org/pdfs/leadership\\_turnaround\\_schools.pdf](http://www.learningpt.org/pdfs/leadership_turnaround_schools.pdf), and <http://www.pakeys.org/docs/SL%20PP%201.pdf> )

**SAS Alignment:** Safe and Supportive Schools

### ***Action Steps:***

*Establish a district system that fully ensures the consistent implementation of effective instructional practices across classrooms in each school.*

#### **Description:**

Through research-based professional development, including formative assessment, PLN, differentiated instruction, etc.. all teachers will have the experience and knowledge to implement effective instructional practices in all classrooms throughout the district.

Teachers will meet in Professional Learning Teams, develop research-based differentiated supervision projects, peer observe, keep a portfolio of meeting the domains in the Teacher Effectiveness Tool to assist them in providing excellent instruction that differentiates learning for all students.

**Start Date:** 10/1/2013    **End Date:** 6/30/2016

#### **Program Area(s):**

#### **Supported Strategies:**

- Differentiating Instruction
- Increased Quality Instructional Time
- Instructional (Distributed) Leadership Capacity Building

**Goal #3:** To ensure that the district creates systems that provide for consistent implementation of standards aligned curricula across all schools for all students.

#### **Related Challenges:**

- Establish a district system that fully ensures consistent implementation of standards aligned curricula across all schools for all students.

#### **Indicators of Effectiveness:**

Type: Summative

Data Source: Student engagement in learning, grades, graduation, state and local assessments

Specific Targets: The district is currently updating all of its curriculum to be aligned to the PA Core Standards. Teachers are working collaboratively to complete this process. The goal is to have all curriculum aligned to state standards by June 2014. This curriculum will be reviewed and amended on at least an annual basis by the professional staff.

#### ***Strategies:***

##### ***Curriculum Mapping***

**Description:** Empirical evidence of a positive statistical correlation of the use of curriculum mapping with student achievement is scarce. There was a 2001 study by the Indiana Center of Evaluation conducted for the Ohio DOE that determined curriculum alignment (defined as curriculum mapping with subsequent change in instructional practice) was the “single greatest factor in achieving improved test scores.” The following link provides a list of resources supporting the positive contributions of curriculum mapping to educational processes:

<http://www.curriculummapping101.com/materials/curriculum-mapping-research> ; the following link provides an overview of curriculum mapping: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Curriculum\\_mapping](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Curriculum_mapping)

**SAS Alignment:** Standards, Materials & Resources

##### ***Curriculum Mapping and Other Resources***

#### **Description:**

The Northern Potter Children's School completed its curriculum map foundation to begin the 2013-2014 school year. Grade level teams will meet once each quarter (October, December, February, and April) to insure that the curriculum map is being followed and updated as necessary. Likewise, local assessment will be administered a minimum of three times during the school year (Baseline- September; Winter- January; Spring- April) to determine the overall proficiency and academic growth of students in grades K-3.

The Northern Potter Jr/Sr High School has begun creating curriculum maps in the tested areas by aligning course concepts with the PA Common Core eligible content. Once this is complete the high school will be aligning its curricula in the other subject areas beginning with the subjects that have pending state examinations. The tentative completion date is June 2014.

**SAS Alignment:** Standards, Curriculum Framework, Materials & Resources

### ***Action Steps:***

#### ***Curriculum Mapping***

##### **Description:**

Both the Children's School and the High School will take steps to ensure that the curriculum is aligned to the Common Core in the tested subject areas as well as other accepted state and national standards associated with the other subject areas. We will know that the action step has been successfully implemented when we have consistent documentation of aligned curriculum and our students' standardized test scores reflect the alignment.

**Start Date:** 10/1/2013     **End Date:** 6/30/2016

**Program Area(s):** Professional Education, Educational Technology

##### **Supported Strategies:**

- Curriculum Mapping
- Curriculum Mapping and Other Resources

**Goal #4:** Establish a district system that fully ensures students who are academically at risk are identified early and are supported by a process that provides interventions based upon student needs and includes procedures for monitoring effectiveness.

##### **Related Challenges:**

- Establish a district system that fully ensures barriers to student learning are addressed in order to increase student achievement and graduation rates.

##### **Indicators of Effectiveness:**



Type: Formative

Data Source: PVAAS, 4Sights, DIBELS, GMADE, CDTs, ALEKS, and local formative assessments

Specific Targets: PVAAS data that supports student growth, PVAAS student projections > 50% over 6 year period, 4Sight projections, CDT performance projections- above proficient/advanced

### ***Strategies:***

#### ***Data Analysis Procedures, Data-Informed Instruction, Data Teams & Data Warehousing***

**Description:** Using Student Achievement Data to Support Instructional Decision Making provides a WWC reporting of various strategies related to the acquisition, analysis, and application of student data. (Source: [http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/pdf/practice\\_guides/dddm\\_pg\\_092909.pdf](http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/pdf/practice_guides/dddm_pg_092909.pdf) )

**SAS Alignment:** Assessment, Instruction

### ***Action Steps:***

#### ***School-Based Intervention System***

##### **Description:**

The daily schedule in both buildings includes time dedicated to remediate students' skill deficiencies. Teachers would obtain information about skill deficiency from standardized tests like the PSSA and/or Keystone, quarterly assessments, students performance, and other accepted measures.

**Start Date:** 10/1/2013      **End Date:** 6/30/2016

**Program Area(s):** Professional Education, Special Education, Student Services, Educational Technology

##### **Supported Strategies:**

- Data Analysis Procedures, Data-Informed Instruction, Data Teams & Data Warehousing

# Appendix: Professional Development Action Step Details

LEA Goals Addressed:	#1 Establish a district system that fully ensures the consistent implementation of effective instructional practices across all classrooms in each school.	Strategy #1: Differentiating Instruction Strategy #2: Increased Quality Instructional Time Strategy #3: Instructional (Distributed) Leadership Capacity Building
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Start	End	Title			Description		
10/1/2013	6/30/2016	Establish a district system that fully ensures the consistent implementation of effective instructional practices across classrooms in each school.			Through research-based professional development, including formative assessment, PLN, differentiated instruction, etc.. all teachers will have the experience and knowledge to implement effective instructional practices in all classrooms throughout the district.  Teachers will meet in Professional Learning Teams, develop research-based differentiated supervision projects, peer observe, keep a portfolio of meeting the domains in the Teacher Effectiveness Tool to assist them in providing excellent instruction that differentiates learning for all students.		
		Person Responsible	SH	S	EP	Provider	Type
		Building	3.0	10	30	Multiple providers	We will
		Principals/Superintendent					utilize a
							multitude
							of
							resources

## Knowledge

Knowledge of best practices for student achievement.

## Supportive Research

Professional Learning Communities

**Designed to Accomplish**

For classroom teachers, school counselors and education specialists:	Enhances the educator's content knowledge in the area of the educator's certification or assignment.
	Increases the educator's teaching skills based on research on effective practice, with attention given to interventions for struggling students.
	Provides educators with a variety of classroom-based assessment skills and the skills needed to analyze and use data in instructional decision-making.
For school and district administrators, and other educators seeking leadership roles:	Provides leaders with the ability to access and use appropriate data to inform decision-making.
	Empowers leaders to create a culture of teaching and learning, with an emphasis on learning.

**Professional Learning Communities****Training Format**

<b>Participant Roles</b>	Dir	Classroom teachers Principals / Asst. Principals Supt / Ast Supts / CEO / Ex	<b>Grade Levels</b>	Elementary - Primary (preK - grade 1) Elementary - Intermediate (grades 2-5) Middle (grades 6-8) High (grades 9-12)
		School counselors Paraprofessional		
<b>Follow-up Activities</b>		Team development and sharing of content-area lesson implementation outcomes, with involvement of administrator and/or peers	<b>Evaluation Methods</b>	Classroom observation focusing on factors such as planning and preparation, knowledge of content, pedagogy and standards, classroom environment, instructional delivery and professionalism.

Analysis of student work,  
with administrator and/or peers  
Creating lessons to meet  
varied student learning styles  
Lesson modeling with  
mentoring

Student PSSA data  
Standardized student assessment  
data other than the PSSA  
Classroom student assessment data

LEA Goals Addressed:	#1 To ensure that the district creates systems that provide for consistent implementation of standards aligned curricula across all schools for all students.	Strategy #1: Curriculum Mapping Strategy #2: Curriculum Mapping and Other Resources
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Start	End	Title			Description		
10/1/2013	6/30/2016	Curriculum Mapping			Both the Children's School and the High School will take steps to ensure that the curriculum is aligned to the Common Core in the tested subject areas as well as other accepted state and national standards associated with the other subject areas. We will know that the action step has been successfully implemented when we have consistent documentation of aligned curriculum and our students' standardized test scores reflect the alignment.		
		Person Responsible	SH	S	EP	Provider	Type
		Building	3	20	30	Northern Potter School District	School Entity
		Principals/Superintendent					App. No

**Knowledge** Teachers will learn the tools used in effectively mapping curriculum.

**Supportive Research** PDE SAS

**Designed to Accomplish**

For classroom teachers, school counselors and education specialists:	<p>Enhances the educator's content knowledge in the area of the educator's certification or assignment.</p> <p>Provides educators with a variety of classroom-based assessment skills and the skills needed to analyze and use data in instructional decision-making.</p>	
For school and district administrators, and other educators seeking leadership roles:	<p>Provides the knowledge and skills to think and plan strategically, ensuring that assessments, curriculum, instruction, staff professional education, teaching materials and interventions for struggling students are aligned to each other as well as to Pennsylvania's academic standards.</p> <p>Provides leaders with the ability to access and use appropriate data to inform decision-making.</p> <p>Empowers leaders to create a culture of teaching and learning, with an emphasis on learning.</p> <p>Instructs the leader in managing resources for effective results.</p>	
<b>Training Format</b>	<p>LEA Whole Group Presentation</p> <p>Series of Workshops</p> <p>School Whole Group Presentation</p> <p>Department Focused Presentation</p> <p>Professional Learning Communities</p>	
<b>Participant Roles</b>	<p>Classroom teachers</p> <p>Principals / Asst. Principals</p> <p>Supt / Ast Supts / CEO / Ex</p> <p>School counselors</p> <p>New Staff</p>	<p>Elementary - Primary (preK - grade 1)</p> <p>Elementary - Intermediate (grades 2-5)</p> <p>Middle (grades 6-8)</p> <p>High (grades 9-12)</p>

<b>Follow-up Activities</b>	Team development and sharing of content-area lesson implementation outcomes, with involvement of administrator and/or peers	<b>Evaluation Methods</b>	Classroom observation focusing on factors such as planning and preparation, knowledge of content, pedagogy and standards, classroom environment, instructional delivery and professionalism.
	Analysis of student work, with administrator and/or peers		Student PSSA data
	Creating lessons to meet varied student learning styles		Standardized student assessment data other than the PSSA
	Peer-to-peer lesson discussion		Classroom student assessment data
	Lesson modeling with mentoring		Participant survey
	Joint planning period activities		Review of participant lesson plans
	Journaling and reflecting		Review of written reports summarizing instructional activity
			Portfolio

<b>LEA Goals Addressed:</b>		#1 Establish a district system that fully ensures students who are academically at risk are identified early and are supported by a process that provides interventions based upon student needs and includes procedures for monitoring effectiveness.	Strategy #1: Data Analysis Procedures, Data-Informed Instruction, Data Teams & Data Warehousing
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<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Description</b>
10/1/2013	6/30/2016	School-Based Intervention System	The daily schedule in both buildings includes time dedicated to remediate students' skill deficiencies. Teachers would obtain information about skill deficiency from standardized tests like the PSSA and/or Keystone, quarterly assessments, students performance, and other accepted measures.

Person Responsible	SH	S	EP	Provider	Type	App.
Building Principals/Superintendent	1.5	18	30	Northern Potter School District, IU9, PaTTAN	School Entity, IU, PaTTAN	Yes
Knowledge	Using formative, diagnostic, and summative assessments to determine areas of remediation					
Supportive Research	PDE SAS					
Designed to Accomplish						
For classroom teachers, school counselors and education specialists:	Enhances the educator's content knowledge in the area of the educator's certification or assignment.					
	Increases the educator's teaching skills based on research on effective practice, with attention given to interventions for struggling students.					
	Provides educators with a variety of classroom-based assessment skills and the skills needed to analyze and use data in instructional decision-making.					
	Empowers educators to work effectively with parents and community partners.					
For school and district administrators, and other educators seeking leadership roles:	Provides the knowledge and skills to think and plan strategically, ensuring that assessments, curriculum, instruction, staff professional education, teaching materials and interventions for struggling students are aligned to each other as well as to Pennsylvania's academic standards.					
	Provides leaders with the ability to access and use appropriate data to inform decision-making.					
	Empowers leaders to create a culture of teaching and learning, with an emphasis on learning.					
	Instructs the leader in managing resources for effective results.					
Training Format	LEA Whole Group Presentation Series of Workshops					

	School Whole Group Presentation Live Webinar Department Focused Presentation Professional Learning Communities Offsite Conferences		
<b>Participant Roles</b>	Dir	Classroom teachers	<b>Grade Levels</b>
		Principals / Asst. Principals	
		Supt / Ast Supts / CEO / Ex	Elementary - Primary (preK - grade 1)
			Elementary - Intermediate (grades 2-5)
		School counselors	Middle (grades 6-8)
		New Staff	High (grades 9-12)
		Other educational specialists	
<b>Follow-up Activities</b>		Team development and sharing of content-area lesson implementation outcomes, with involvement of administrator and/or peers	<b>Evaluation Methods</b>
		Analysis of student work, with administrator and/or peers	
		Creating lessons to meet varied student learning styles	Classroom observation focusing on factors such as planning and preparation, knowledge of content, pedagogy and standards, classroom environment, instructional delivery and professionalism.
		Peer-to-peer lesson discussion	Student PSSA data
		Lesson modeling with mentoring	Standardized student assessment data other than the PSSA
		Joint planning period activities	Classroom student assessment data
			Participant survey
			Review of participant lesson plans
			Review of written reports
			summarizing instructional activity
			Portfolio



Conducting the experiment

During the experiment, I noticed that the results were not as expected.

At the end of the experiment

I was able to see that the results were not as expected.

Table 1

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Northern Potter SD / Plan Submission / Affirmations /

## District Level Affirmations

We affirm that this District Level Plan was developed in accordance, and will comply with the applicable provisions of 22 Pa. Code, Chapters 4, 12, 16, and 49. We also affirm that the contents are true and correct and that the plan was placed for public inspection in the school district/AVTS offices and in the nearest public library until the next regularly scheduled meeting of the board or for a minimum of 28 days whichever comes first.

We affirm that the responses in the Professional Education Core Foundations and the Professional Development Action Steps focus on the learning needs of each staff member to enable all staff members meet or exceed the Pennsylvania academic standards in each of the core subject areas.

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Affirmed by **David Smoker** on **11/18/2013**

[Remove Signature](#)

*Board President*

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Affirmed by **Scott Graham** on **11/18/2013**

**Sign**

*Chief School Administrator*

# Special Education Affirmations

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We also affirm our understanding that any requests for any deviations from the Chapter 14 regulations, standards, policies, and procedures must be made in writing to the Pennsylvania Department of Education. The school district understands that the Special Education Component of the District Level Plan will be approved by PDE in accordance with the following criteria as set forth in 22 Pa. School Code § 14.104 and as part of the District Level Plan:

1. There are a full range of services, programs and alternative placements available to the school district for placement and implementation of the special education programs in the school district.
2. The school district has adopted a child find system to locate, identify and evaluate young children and children who are thought to be a child with a disability eligible for special education residing within the school district's jurisdiction. Child find data is collected, maintained, and used in decision-making. Child find process and procedures are evaluated for its effectiveness. The school district implements mechanisms to disseminate child find information to the public, organizations, agencies, and individuals on at least an annual basis.
3. The school district has adopted policies and procedures that assure that students with disabilities are included in general education programs and extracurricular and non-academic programs and activities to the maximum extent appropriate in accordance with an Individualized Education Program.
4. The school district will comply with the PA Department of Education, Bureau of Special Education's revision notice process.
5. The school district follows the state and federal guidelines for participation of students with disabilities in state and district-wide assessments including the determination of participation, the need for accommodations, and the methods of assessing students for whom regular assessment is not appropriate.
6. The school district affirms the Pennsylvania Department of Education that funds received through participation in the medical assistance reimbursement program, ACCESS, will be used to enhance or expand the current level of services and programs provided to students with disabilities in this local education agency.

**Affirmed by David Smoker on 5/24/2013**

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*Board President*

**Affirmed by Scott Graham on 5/24/2013**

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**Chief School Administrator**

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